Essay Topics:

1. All over the world people have pets. Even though these animals cost money and take time to care for, we have them in our homes. What is the value of having a pet?
2. Life in America is rapidly changing and so is our society. What do you think will be our country's biggest problem in the next century.
3. Parents have an impact on their children both positively and negatively. What do you think are the qualities of a good parent?
4. When looking for a place to live, people usually have certain things in mind for their house or neighborhood. What do you look for when choosing a place to live?
5. "Honesty is the best policy." Do you agree or disagree with this statement?
6. When you think about the friends you have, what makes a good friend?
7. It has been said that many problems stem from money. Which do you think causes more problems; having money, or not having money?
8. Many people say Baseball is America's favorite pastime. What is your favorite pastime?
9. Some people say that we live in a difficult time. In what way are we in the worst of times or the best of times?
10. We live in a world where the credit card rules. What are the advantages or disadvantages of using credit cards?
11. Many people think athletes are our heroes. Who do you think should be our heroes?
12. The automobile has been responsible for changes in our society. What are some of the effects the automobile has had on daily life?
13. Summertime: a season we all look forward to after a long winter. What does summertime mean to you?
14. Goals: we all have them. What is one goal you plan on accomplishing in the future.
15. People have an effect on us in many ways. Who has had a positive effect on you?
16. Good employers are hard to find. What makes a good employer?
17. Good employees are hard to find. What makes a good employee?
18. What effect has television had on our daily lives?
19. If you could spend time with someone alive or dead, who would that be?
20. We all want material things, what else do you want out of life that does not fit this category?

Spool Paper Planning Sheet_____

Name_____ **Date**_____ **Period**____

*For effective **organizational structure**, follow this format **exactly** when planning an essay. Develop the main idea expressed in each topic sentence—and develop **ideas and content**—by providing three (3) relevant supporting **details**. Create logical **organizational** links—and **sentence fluency**—by connecting one idea to the next by including smooth **transition** sentences at the ends of the introductory, body, and concluding paragraphs. **Key: 1 = thesis statement; 2 = topic sentence; 3 = detail sentence; 4 = transition statement; 5 = concluding statement. Lead = a pertinent definition, a relevant direct quotation, an appropriate rhetorical question, or a germane striking statement that grabs the reader's attention.***

Introductory Paragraph:

Lead:_____

_____

_____

1. Thesis Statement:_____

2. Topic Sentence from Body #1_____
2. Topic Sentence from Body #2_____
2. Topic Sentence from Body #3_____
4. Transition Statement:_____

Body Paragraph #1

2. Topic Sentence:_____
3. Detail Sentence:_____
3. Detail Sentence:_____
3. Detail Sentence:_____
4. Transition Statement:_____

Body Paragraph #2

2. Topic Sentence:_____
3. Detail Sentence:_____
3. Detail Sentence:_____
3. Detail Sentence:_____
4. Transition Statement:_____

Body Paragraph #3

2. Topic Sentence:_____
3. Detail Sentence:_____
3. Detail Sentence:_____
3. Detail Sentence:_____
4. Transition Statement:_____

Concluding Paragraph

1. Restatement of Thesis:_____

2. Topic Sentence from Body #1_____
2. Topic Sentence from Body #2_____
2. Topic Sentence from Body #3_____
5. Concluding Statement:_____