

1. Action Proposal

Introduction

This activity will help students to organize their thoughts as they propose their own actions or solutions. Using the provided outline, each student group will craft a written proposal that will act as the foundation for their inquiry into real-world organizations, problems and solutions facing their local community. While working in groups, students will begin to brainstorm possible solutions and actions to take in their community that will create needed change. The solution or action will be proposed to the teacher or class so students can begin researching and putting their plans into action.

Procedure

Have students brainstorm possible solutions or actions and answer the following questions in an essay proposal:

Paragraph 1

- Briefly explain the proposed solution or action.
- What issue does the solution confront?
- How does the proposed solution help solve the given issue?
- Describe the anticipated outcome to the solution or action

Paragraph 2

- Where is the solution most effectively executed?
- Describe the steps involved.
- Is it a difficult process to execute?
- How will you measure results?

Paragraph 3

- Describe the advantages of the solution.
- Describe the disadvantages of the solution.
- Do the advantages outweigh the disadvantages?

Paragraph 4

- Is the issue being solved any other way? If so, how?
- Are there any other groups involved with the issue?
- Does this solution improve or add to the overall resolution of the issue?

Paragraph 5

- What possible roadblocks do you foresee?
- Do you feel you can be successful in executing the solution? Why?
- Why do you feel this is a worthwhile endeavor?

Have students write and turn in essays to be reviewed for the next step in the process.

Subsequent Activities: After the completion of this activity the class can go on multiple directions. Groups can continue to work on the solutions or actions they have proposed in this activity, or the class can choose a single proposed solution or action to take up and implement as a whole class.