**Sample Global Argument Situations: Fall of 2013**

As a freshman at the University of Notre Dame, a college that has a Physical Education requirement, I am writing to the heads of colleges or the board of trustees at colleges across the country. I would argue that colleges and university should stop dropping their PE requirements, and bring them back if they have already been dropped. Many Americans are ignorant of how to live a healthy lifestyle, and that is because many of them are poorly educated. Optimally, my letter would appear in the *New York Times* as a letter to the editor. This would ensure that many people would see the letter, including both people who had the power to make the necessary changes, and the people who it would be affecting. Most people seem to think that PE is unnecessary part of a college education, and I want to explain to them why P.E. would benefit students and should be included as a graduation requirement.

When anyone mentions a zoo, many people immediately think that it is cruel locking up animals in a cell. However, a lot of people don’t see how much zoos actually benefit the animals. Zoos have to follow very specific regulations on how they treat the animals so a lot of the time the animals live comfortable lives The main aim for zoos is that they preserve endangered species. They help them mate to increase endangered species population size. They also help animals reintroduce animals into the wild after increasing their number. Zoos are also used a lot for research. It’s very convenient to have a lot of animals in the same area. Scientists could discover more about animals than they would in the wild. Zoos are an amazing experience and it would be good to have a lot of people think so. Therefore, I will be writing to my fellow classmates to inform them more about the benefits of zoos.

As a teenage girl who watches a variety of reality television programs frequently, I am writing a speech that will be delivered to a group of parents of students at Knoxville High School in Illinois, my old high school. Most of these parents are relatively uneducated about and inexperienced with many reality TV shows, so I want to display the negative effects that reality television can have on its viewers. Many parents may believe that reality television is harmless entertainment, and they are not worried about their children watching it. I hope to convince them that reality TV shows can actually be detrimental to their children’s minds and potential actions.

As some one who has Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and who has been through the treatment process, I am writing to the U.S. Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in the hopes of encouraging them to make greater educational efforts in notifying people, who are seeking out ADHD drugs, of their treatment options. The FDA’s stance is one of openness, but will need sufficient evidence in order to sway their current stance on the issue. After witnessing, first hand, problems associated with the present system for prescribing ADHD medication, I am preparing a letter to the FDA in the hopes of solving issues such as: over prescription, abuse, and side affects associated with the very powerful drugs used to treat ADHD.

As a freshman in college who has been wrestling for seven years, I am speaking to my Writing and Rhetoric class about why wrestling should remain in the Olympics. I believe that most of the class is either indifferent or would like to see wrestling remain in the Olympics, and that most of them played some sort of sport in high school. Ultimately I am hoping that they will decide for themselves that they would like to see wrestling continue in the Olympics and may argue that point if ever in a conversation the topic arises.

Situation: As a member of the Yuan Da community, the residential community I live in when I am in China, I want to deliver a speech to the property management team in my community to discuss the stray dog issues in our community. I want to bring this issue to all community members’ attention by talking about the problems stray dogs can cause. In the end I want to suggest possible solutions to the problem. After my speech, the property management team will post the script around the community so that all the residents can read it, and the team can deal with this issue with the understanding and cooperation among all community members.

Situation Statement: I will be writing an article to be featured in *Sports Illustrated*. The article will be in support of the new instant replay policy that is being implemented in Major League Baseball for the upcoming season. As a four-year high school football and baseball player, I am a firm believer that if technology is available, it should be utilized to make a fair game, aid umpires in making calls, etc. Since the article will be published in a sports magazine, readers should have a relatively good idea of the topic and may already have an opinion on the subject.

Since 2006, the NBA’s collective bargaining agreement has prohibited the NBA from drafting players directly from high school. I am writing a letter to the NBA owners and its players association (the NBAPA) as a fan of both college basketball, and to a lesser extent the NBA. Currently, the NBA and the NBAPA are satisfied with the current system. I intend to convince them that players should be allowed to enter the NBA directly from high school. However, if a player does attend college that player should have to stay for at least 3 years to be draft-eligible, like the MLB system. This letter will appear in Sports Illustrated.

My high school English teacher, Mr. Jones, has invited me back to my high school to give a speech to a group of parents of incoming freshman about the benefits of going to my high school, Columbus Alternative High School. The parents are seriously considering sending their children to Columbus Alternative but are not sure whether this is the best school to send their children to. As a former student of Columbus Alternative High School, hopefully my giving them this speech will persuade them to send their children to the school.

As a freshman cross country and track runner for the University of Notre Dame, I am giving a speech to my classmates on how the NCAA should not consider college athletes amateurs, which submits them to rules against being sponsored, endorsed, and paid. As a result of this speech, I hope to raise awareness about this issue, and ultimately to put pressure on the NCAA from Notre Dame students to lift the amateurism rules on collegiate athletes.

As an American who regularly watches varying genres of popular television, I am writing a letter to the six major Hollywood studios regarding diversity in their television programming. My goal is to convince them to represent ethnic minorities in their programming as frequently and complexly (i.e., fully) as their white counterparts. Before reading this letter, they will be resistant to my stance, but ultimately open to my opinion, because as a consumer of their products, I am a driving force in their economic success.

As a driver of a manual transmission car, I am writing an article directed towards Notre Dame seniors that will appear in Notre Dame’s newspaper, *The Observer*. My audience will be, specifically, students who are considering buying a car after graduation. In regard to the debate over manual versus automatic transmission, I am writing in favor of manual transmission because of its many benefits. My audience, the seniors of Notre Dame, may argue against manual transmission because of the convenience of automatic transmission. My goal is to convince readers that the benefits and experience of operating a manual gearbox outweigh the convenience of an automatic.

As an avid sports fan, particularly of football, baseball, and hockey, I am preparing a speech to present to my fellow writing classmates about the Washington Redskins name controversy. Recently professional sports team with Native American-themed names – the Washington Redskins, especially – have come under pressure to change their team names to avoid offending Native Americans. There are arguments on both sides for these teams to change or not to change their names, and the issue is still very much undecided. My goal is to convince my peers that Redskins should not change the team name.

As a fan of the National Football League, I am deeply interested in the current controversy over the Washington Redskins name change. Due to my understanding of how offensive gestures affect specific groups of people I am completely in favor of them changing their name. I am writing an open letter to Dan Snyder, the owner of the Redskins and final decision maker on this topic. My ultimate goal is to persuade him to change the Redskins name and move forward as a franchise.

As someone who has been adopted from a foreign country with no knowledge of medical records or my biological parents and family, I am writing a speech to present to my Writing and Rhetoric class at the University of Notre Dame. At least some of the class probably does not know many of the controversies surrounding the topic of sealed records of adoptees. Through this speech, I intend to inform my audience of the negative effects of denying adopted people access to their records and the positive effects of granting full access. Ultimately, I hope that they will consider my argument when deciding whether or not adoptees should have access to their own records and see the advantages of granting that access.