

RAFT Essay Writing Prompt - Korematsu

Grade 9/10 California Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts:

- **Writing 1:** Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
- **Writing 4:** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- **Writing 5:** Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.



Directions: Choose one of the following rows for your first person writing assignment. You may also create your own option (with teacher's approval).

	R Role	A Audience	F Format	T Topic
A	Defense Attorney for Fred Korematsu	U.S. Supreme Court	Closing Arguments (Speech)	In the case <i>Korematsu v. United States</i> , Korematsu's defense attorneys (lawyers) have the opportunity to present their closing arguments. Present a persuasive speech, with evidence in favor of Fred Korematsu, showing that the U.S. government was wrong in the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.
B	Student	Your School District Superintendent	Formal Business Letter or Speech	California declared January 30th "Fred Korematsu Day," to remember a man who fought for Japanese American civil rights during World War II. Write a letter or speech to the school district superintendent, telling them why and how your school should recognize the day in his memory.
C	Fred Korematsu	United States Congress	Speech	After 9/11, Fred Korematsu has the opportunity to speak to the United States Congress. Write a speech, explaining the importance of protecting civil rights for Arabs, Middle Easterners, South Asians and Muslims in America. How should we as a country protect both national security and individual civil rights?

Writing Process:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree Map Due: _____ • Rough Draft Due: _____ • Peer-Editing Due: _____ • Typed Final Draft Due: _____ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five paragraphs minimum • First person point of view (I, me, my) • Clear organization of ideas, including a thesis/main argument • Specific details from the text |
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