**Informative/Explanatory Writing Prompt:**

*Do all people have equal access to achieve their dreams?*

Write an explanatory essay answering this question. Develop your essay using clear and relevant evidence from at least two sources in which one must be in print (novel, articles, and media). Manage your time carefully so that you can plan your essay by doing some prewriting in the space provided. Write your essay on the lined pages of your answer document. Your written response should be in the form of a multi-paragraph essay free of grammatical errors.

**Be sure to:**

* Cite all evidence appropriately using either the author’s last name or article/video title in parenthesis
* Not rely too heavily on one source—use both sources equally
* Provide a thesis statement
* Use a strategy for organizing/prewriting (RACE, TIDE(LL), etc.)
* Include vivid vocabulary words (use thesaurus if needed)
* Create sentence variety
* Use transitions

**Possible sources:**

Texts-- Media (choose only 1)—

“Knock Knock” by Daniel Beaty *Raised in the System*

“Slam, Dunk, & Hook” by Yousef Komunykaa PBS: *Should kids be incarcerated with adults?”*

“Does treating kids like adults make a difference?”

“Point B” by Sarah Kay

“Juvenile Justice: Too Young for Life in Prison?” by Huma Khan

“Should 11-year-olds be charged with adult crimes?”

“The Rose that Grew from Concrete” by Tupac Shakur

“Invictus” by William Ernest Henley

Articles that we read in letter groups (A-E):

A- “Middle-School Friends Are Critical for Future Success” by Dr. Rick Nauert

B- “Drugs, Gangs on the Rise in Schools” by Salynn Boyles

C- “More children living in poverty now than during recession” by Jennifer Calfas

D- “Causes of School Violence”

E-“Bullying and Teasing: No Laughing Matter” by Hans Wilhelm