**Writing Pretest Prompt Suggestions for English 9**

**Prompt Suggestion #1**

“A leader should never apologize for his or her actions because it shows a sign of weakness.” For a leader not to apologize of to show remorse is easier to do because s/he is denying his or her shortcoming, or choosing to ignore the issue at hand.

**Assignment:** What is your view of the idea that to apologize shows a sign of weakness? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from your experience, reading, studies, and observations.

**Prompt Suggestion #2**

“Personal success is simply the fulfillment of what makes you happy.” –Anonymous

“The wealthy man is the man who is much, not the one who has much.” –Karl Marx

**Assignment:**  What is your view of the idea that true success consists of personal fulfillment rather than monetary gain? In an essay, support your position by discussing an example (or examples) from your reading, studies, current events, our society and culture, or your own experiences or observations.

**Prompt Suggestion #3**

Ralph Waldo Emerson stated, “The only way to have a friend is to be one.” This quotation suggests that one must display the attributes of a friend to have any friends oneself. However, some would advocate that there are some who are kind and will be your friend no matter what the circumstances.

**Assignment:** What is your view on the idea that it takes being a friend to have a friend? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and your own experiences. Your own definition of a “friend” may help you to a stance on this question.

**Prompt Suggestion #4**

“I don't think much of a man who is not wiser today than he was yesterday.” --Abraham Lincoln

**Assignment:** What is your view on the idea that we should always be learning something new? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and your own experiences. Use examples from your reading, studies, current events, our society and culture, or your own experiences or observations.

**Prompt Suggestion #5**

“There are some things you learn best in calm, and some in storm.”--Willa Cather

**Assignment:** What is your view on the idea that sometimes we need to learn in a calm setting and sometimes we learn most during a time of turmoil? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and your own experiences. Use examples from your reading, studies, current events, our society and culture, or your own experiences or observations.