

English 10H
The Catcher in the Rye
Censorship Essay

The Situation:

Recently, your local newspaper has received many letters to the Editor on the issue of censorship. Many have dealt with censoring books and music. The community views seem to be split on the issue. Many people believe that schools and industry should have the right to censor materials that they feel is unfit for public consumption. Others believe that as Americans, we should have the freedom to choose what we read with no restrictions. Your English teacher has given you an assignment that requires you to write a letter to the editor stating your opinion(s) on censorship, which includes research and facts to support your opinion.

Your Task:

Write a letter to the Editor of your local newspaper that expresses your views on censorship. Are there certain types of media that should be censored? Why or why not? Are there dangers associated with too much/too little censorship? Who, if anyone, should have the power to decide what is censored? Be sure to include information from the research you've done on this topic. Although this letter will express your opinion, you need to make sure that this is not a purely emotional response. USE OUTSIDE INFORMATION TO HELP YOUR ARGUMENT!

*Any information that you use from outside sources must be quoted and referenced on a works cited page.

Guidelines:

Be sure to

- Tell your audience what they need to know in order to help them understand your point of view on censorship.
- Use specific, accurate, and relevant information from your research to support your opinion.
- Use a tone and level of language appropriate for a letter to the Editor of your local newspaper.
- Organize your ideas in a logical and coherent manner.
- Indicate any words taken directly from outside material by using quotation marks or referring to a speaker.
- Provide a works cited page to reference all outside materials used.
- Follow the conventions of standard written English.