



Civics Essay #1: Voting Age

In an analytically written five-paragraph essay, answer the following question:

Although there is no age requirement specified in the United States Constitution, most states had set the voting age at 21. During the Vietnam War many 18 year olds were sent to fight for the country. These teens became critical of the fact that while they were old enough to fight for their country in war, they were not given the right to vote. In response, Congress proposed that an amendment be added to the Constitution that would lower the voting age to 18. The states ratified the Twenty-Sixth Amendment in 1971, thereby lowering the voting age throughout the country to 18 years old.

Discuss whether the voting age should be further lowered to allow 13 year olds the right to vote.

Due Date:

Include the following in this order:

- **Rubric**
- **Final Draft**
- **Rough Draft**
- **Outline**

Oral Presentation:

On the 29th, you will make a one-minute oral presentation that explains your thesis and how you support your position in your three points of analysis. This presentation must be memorized and engaging. You will be graded on your presentation.

Include the following:

- Answer the question
- Cover the three points with supporting evidence
- Conclude

Written Essay:

Your first paragraph must include an introduction and your thesis statement. Your thesis statement is your answer to the question.

The body of your essay must include three points of analysis. Each point of analysis must explain and support your thesis statement. The body of your essay is three paragraphs. Each new paragraph must begin with a topic sentence that establishes the point of analysis you will discuss in that paragraph. It is your job to support your position in this part of the essay.

The conclusion of your essay must review your thesis statement and your points of analysis. You may also include a personal plea for your position here.

Remember to write analytically!

- ✓ Write in third person
- ✓ Write formally, using proper grammar
- ✓ Write your position and support it with evidence.

