

Written Expression Sample for RCLD Evaluation

Name of Student

Date

Amount of Time

Dear Student: The purpose of this writing sample is to help us determine whether you have any problems in expressing yourself in writing. Please use unlined paper and a pen (not a pencil or erasable pen). We want to be able to see any changes you make. Please choose one of the topics below and write for 15 minutes. We want your best effort, but don't be concerned about revisions and possible mistakes.

1. **Space exploration:** Provide one argument for and one against continuing government funding for space exploration.
2. **Legal drinking age:** Provide one argument in favor of lowering the legal drinking age, and one argument against it.
3. **Legalization of marijuana:** Provide at least one argument in favor of the legalization of marijuana for medical use and/or recreational use and one argument against it.
4. **Environmental issues:** should the need for additional energy in this country outweigh concerns about damage to the environment? Provide one argument in favor of environmental protection (i.e., protection of animal or plant species and/or habitat) over energy needs, and one argument supporting energy needs over environmental protection.
5. **Home schooling:** Is home schooling a threat to public education? Provide one argument opposed to home schooling because of possible negative consequences for public education, and one argument in support of home schooling.