**9th Grade Geography Enrichment Project #1**

Learning Objective: Students will analyze thematic maps in order to make inferences about regions of Canada and the United States. **PWR Standard: Identify and describe historical, social, cultural, political geographical and economic concepts.**

Assignment Directions: You will write a 5 paragraph essay that explains where you would like to live in the United States or Canada. You must use thematic maps in order to support your opinion.

Requirements:

* **Introduction paragraph**
  + Introduce where you would like to live.
  + Explain the location of the area that you have chosen: absolute and relative location.
* **Body Paragraph 1**: Refer to 1st thematic map
  + Choose one of the maps to refer to: population density, physical features, climate zones, vegetation zones, and economic activity. (pages 558-563)
  + Include 3 details from the map that you choose that supports your opinion.
* **Body Paragraph 2**: Refer to 2nd thematic map
  + Choose one of the maps to refer to: population density, physical features, climate zones, vegetation zones, and economic activity. (pages 558-563)
  + Include 3 details from the map that you choose that supports your opinion.
* **Body Paragraph 3**: Refer to 3rd thematic map
  + Choose one of the maps to refer to: population density, physical features, climate zones, vegetation zones, and economic activity. (pages 558-563)
  + Include 3 details from the map that you choose that supports your opinion.
* *(OPTIONAL)* Body Paragraph 4: Research human features
  + Describe human features that are found in your location and explain what you like about them.
* **Conclusion paragraph**
  + Restate your opinion
  + Summarize the main reasons why you would want to live there.

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| **Category** | **Advanced** | **Proficient** | **Partially Proficient** | **Unsatisfactory** |
| Writing as a Geographer | The author expertly uses geography tools, vocabulary, and concepts accurately in order to draw conclusions about the world. | The author uses geography tools, vocabulary, and concepts in order to draw conclusions about the world. | The author attempts to use geography tools, vocabulary, and concepts. | The author is missing tools, vocabulary, and concepts, or not used correctly. |
| Organization | The author includes and engaging introduction, topic sentences, well organized body paragraphs , and a cohesive conclusion. | The author includes an introduction, organized body paragraphs, and a conclusion. | The author does not attempt to include an introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusions. It may be one long paragraph. | The author makes no attempt to organize ideas into a coherent body of writing. |
| Style | Includes excellent and creative word choice, and varied lengths and structures of sentences. | Word choice is good, and sentences are complete. | Word choice is confusing at times, and some sentences are incomplete or confusing. | The writing is confusing because the words selected do not make sense with the topic, and sentences are incomplete. |
| Mechanics | Grammar is correct, and there are less than 3 errors in spelling. | Grammar is mostly correct, and there are less than 5 errors in spelling. | Grammar is often incorrect, and there are many errors in spelling. | Grammar and spelling is so incorrect, it makes it difficult to understand the writing. |

**Rubric**