

**Sample refutational writing prompt.**

You feel compelled to respond to an editorial in the local paper commenting on the destruction of a recent wetland wildfire and advocating complete suppression of all natural and man-made fires. Using the resources you have already been exposed to, and any others you can find, provide an argument for the beneficial role of fire in southeastern wetland ecosystems. As you write your response to the editorial, remember the following:

- Clearly state the misconception that you are trying to refute.
- Include several specific facts, details, reasons, and examples that demonstrate why the misconception is inaccurate.
- Explain the scientific explanation for the ecological role of naturally occurring fire on community composition and succession.
- Present your ideas in a clear and logical order, including an introduction, body, and conclusion.
- Use a variety of words and well-constructed sentences to create tone and voice.
- Use proper capitalization, punctuation, sentence formation, and spelling.

You will have \_\_\_\_\_ to plan, write, proofread, make any necessary corrections, and produce a final product. You may use any reference materials (e.g., your textbook, online resources) during this process. The final copy is due \_\_\_\_\_.