

## Presidential Election Paragraph Spectrum Version

Write a two-paragraph essay that compares the positions of Barack Obama and John McCain on two of the major campaign issues of the 2008 Presidential Election.

### General Requirements

- 1) **Double-Bubble Thinking map used as prewriting:** turn this in with your final draft. \_\_\_\_\_ / 2
- 2) **Rough draft resubmitted with revision:** turn in your rough draft with the final. Show your **revisions** and **editing**. \_\_\_\_\_ / 3
- 3) **Final draft**
  - a) Must be **typed** (12pt, standard/regular font) **or** neatly handwritten in black ink.
  - b) Write one paragraph each for issue #2 and issue #3 on your “Inside the Issues” chart. Each paragraph should be at least five sentences long.
  - c) Each paragraph should include a **topic sentence** that states the issue (Iraq, the environment, etc) \_\_\_\_\_ / 5
  - d) Each paragraph should include a description of **each** candidate’s position on the issue using at least two details about each candidate.
  - e) End each paragraph with a similarity that the two candidates share using a transitional phrase.
  - f) Follow conventions such as indenting, correct spelling, and ending punctuation. **Write a paragraph, not a list of ideas.**

### Content Assessment

- 1) **Ideas and Content:** Writing gives specific details and factual information (**no personal opinions**). Writing includes examples such as specific references to media and news sources. Writing reflects thought and insight into the issue, and the writing is well informed about the candidates and issues. \_\_\_\_\_ / 5
- 2) **Organization:** Paragraphs are organized with a clear topic sentence and supporting evidence. Sequencing of ideas is logical and effective. Each paragraph includes at least one transitional phrase (such as “although” or “on the other hand”). \_\_\_\_\_ / 5

**Total Points** \_\_\_\_\_ / **20**

