PERSONAL OPINION

OBJECTIVE: The student will express their point of view about a specific topic by writing a personal opinion essay.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

1. Paper and pencil for each class member.

PROCEDURE:

1. Explain to the students that an essay is a formal style of writing. They will be writing essays that will state a personal opinion about a specific topic; subsequently, their choice of words and supporting ideas should be precise and to the point.

2. Instruct students to select a topic about which they feel strongly. The topics can be of a general nature, i.e., current events, school policies, etc., or they can be assigned to select topics that deal specifically with the curriculum area being studied. If necessary, brainstorm example topics with students that might be selected.

3. When the essays have been completed (you should set a time limit depending on the time available and age of group you are teaching) ask for volunteers to share their essays.

4. As each essay is read, other students should jot down a few notes as to why they agree or disagree with the point of view being expressed.

5. Have other students share these ideas by stating, "I agree with this point of view because __________," or "I disagree with this point of view because __________."

6. Collect papers for teacher evaluation making sure that each paper is properly identified.