



SCHOOL VIOLENCE PREVENTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

*We the People: The Citizen & the Constitution*  
Elementary text, Unit Four, Lesson 21  
“How does the Constitution protect your right to vote?”

### LETTER TO A FRIEND

#### Writing Prompt

#### Planning

1. Think about what you want to write.
2. Reread the prompt to make sure you are writing about the topic.
3. Make notes. Use your prewriting skills, such as mapping or outlining.
4. Carefully read the five statements below the prompt.

#### Writing prompt

It is 1893. You are a young black man living in the South. Today you went to register (sign up) to vote. But tonight you are still not a registered voter. Write a letter to inform a friend in a northern state about what happened to you today. Include your feelings about this experience, whether or not you believe your constitutional rights were violated and what you think should be done.

As you write your paper, remember to

- clearly explain what happened to you, your feelings and whether or not your constitutional rights were violated.
- include specific facts, details and examples of the events, your feelings and the issue of constitutional rights being violated.
- present your ideas in a clear and logical order, including an introduction, body, and conclusion.
- use a variety of words and well-constructed sentences.
- correct any errors in grammar, mechanics, and spelling.