**Writing Pretest Prompt**



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| Consider carefully the connection between the following quotation and the assignment that follows. Then plan and write an essay that addresses the prompt and explains your ideas as persuasively as possible. Keep in mind that the support you provide—both reasons and examples—will help make your argument convincing to your reader.

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|  The British naturalist and politician John Lubbock wrote, “Your character will be what you yourself choose to make it.”  |

Do we choose our own character traits, or is our character formed by influences beyond our control? Take a position on this issue. Use reasons and specific examples to support your opinion in a well-written, multi-paragraph PERSUASIVE essay.  |

**CHECKLIST FOR WRITERS**

* I planned my paper before writing.
* I revised my paper to be sure that
	+ the introduction to my paper captures the reader’s attention;
	+ my central idea is supported with specific information and
	+ examples that will interest my reader;
	+ the content of my paper relates to my central idea;
	+ my writing is organized in a logical manner;
	+ my sentences are varied and read smoothly;
	+ my word choice develops my purpose and tone; and
	+ the conclusion brings my ideas together without restating.
* I edited my paper to be sure that
	+ correct grammar is used;
	+ words are capitalized when appropriate;
	+ sentences are constructed and punctuated correctly; and
	+ words are spelled correctly.
* I reviewed my paper to make sure that it accurately reflects my intentions.

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| **Readings****Central Idea** | **Observations** |
| **Studies** | **Experiences** |