Writing Topics
The Stock Market Game
Summer 2020
“Whatever our dreams, ideas or projects, we plant a seed, nurture it and then reap the fruits of our labor.” – Oprah Winfrey

**Prompt:** What do you dream about achieving in your lifetime? In this essay, you will pitch your dream to a panel of investors for “seed money” to invest in your idea. Explain what your dream is, why it is important to you and how much money it will cost.

**Level 1:** Then explain a 10-year investment plan to grow your investors’ seed money over time to pay for your dream. Include a variety of stocks, bonds and/or mutual funds, explain why you selected each position, and describe why these are promising investments. Is there anything else you could do to help ensure your success?

**Level 2:** Then explain both a 10-year investment plan and a 20-year investment plan to grow your investors’ seed money over time to pay for your dream. Include a combination of stocks, bonds and/or mutual funds, explain why you selected each position, and describe why these are promising investments. Is there anything else you could do to help ensure your success?
To Think About First...
Writing Challenge 2

In The Stock Market Game, you might have used Fun Facts and research to guide your portfolio selections. Financial professionals also use facts and conduct research about the financial markets to make good decisions for their clients.

Writing Challenge 2

What are the three most important things you should research before investing in a stock, a mutual fund, and/or a bond? Using this kind of research, choose two investments that you think are good long-term investments (stocks, mutual funds, bonds, or a combination) and explain why you think each one is a wise choice for you. In your essay, describe something you have learned in The Stock Market Game (maybe your very own Fun Facts!) that you think will help you have a brighter financial future.
To Think About First...
Writing Challenge 3

The capital markets make our country strong by supplying capital to launch businesses, create jobs, develop our communities, and drive our economy, while giving people just like you opportunities to save and invest for the future.

Writing Challenge 3

Select an investment from each asset class (stock, bond, mutual fund) that is helping to create new jobs, advance your local community, or strengthen our economy. Discuss the impact that each of your investments has today and will have 10 years from now. Are these good long-term investments? Do you think they could be part of a successful portfolio to help you save for your own future? Why or why not?
To Think About First...
Writing Challenge 4

*Take a Look Back and Think Ahead!*
Look back to the choices you made in your Stock Market Game portfolio this school year and think about what has happened in the stock market recently.

**Writing Challenge 4**

Would you change your investment strategy? Explain. If yes, how would you diversify your portfolio to help protect it from losses for the future?
To Think About First... Writing Challenge 5

Many companies have shown their own superpowers during the Corona pandemic - from Microsoft who continues to pay their hourly workers who support their campus to Comcast, Charter, Verizon, Google, T-Mobile and Sprint who have pledged to keep Americans internet-connected even if people cannot afford to pay.

Writing Challenge 5

Have your SMG students select their own "Superhero" company to profile.

Students: Include the ticker symbol, sector, company background, company achievements and why you would invest. What values does the company hold that help make them a Superhero to you?
Your Rationale

• Is your essay logical and well organized?

• Did you include what analysts say about the company?

• Did you focus on important highlights?
Your Understanding

- Is your language and terminology correct?
- Did you show you understood how to research?
- Did you understand the concepts in your essay?
- Did you show a sound understanding of what a good long-term investment is?
Your Writing

- Will others enjoy reading your essay?
- Is your essay engaging and interesting?
- Have you carefully crafted and revised your essay?
- Have you checked your spelling?
- Have you checked your grammar?
- Have you cited sources that support your opinion?