

## **“2008 Biz Walkabout” Activity**

### **Hook:**

The gas price has reached \$10.00 a gallon and your vehicle gets 10 MPG? You can no longer run to Scottsbluff for every little thing—you need to start buying locally. What are some things you can start buying locally?

What are local services that you can use? What changes has your family already made because of high gas prices?

**Description:** Our class will be taking a walk down main street. Students will visit with local entrepreneurs on this tour.

### **Objectives:**

Students will be able to:

- Describe their local business community
- Summarize information acquired from business owners and city clerk
- Analyze pros and cons of locating a business in rural America
- Project how to attract entrepreneurs to rural communities

### **Assignment:**

Write a 500 word essay on your experience with the **2008 Biz Walkabout**. Be sure to answer the following questions *within* your essay.

Describe the type of businesses on your main street today.

Summarize the information from the city clerk and business owners?

- Students must pre-write 3 questions to ask store owners, answers should be included in your essay
- Students must attach this sheet to their essay.

Analyze and relate the pros and cons of locating a business in rural America

Discuss how a local community could attract new entrepreneurs to rural communities.

12 point font Times New Roman

Title Centered, All CAPS, Quadruple space between title and body of essay

Body double spaced, indent paragraphs

Spell check, proofread

Save as: 2008 Biz Walkabout

Attach scoring rubric to the back of your essay

## “2008 Biz Walkabout” Activity Writing Evaluation Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please staple this evaluation form to your printed essay.

Please refer to the following checklist when you are proofreading and editing your essay.  
Double check very carefully.

- \_\_\_\_ 2 points      Completed on time
- \_\_\_\_ 3 points      Made good use of time
- \_\_\_\_ 5 points      Length (300 words or more) \_\_\_\_\_ Number of words (student record)

### **Format:**

- \_\_\_\_ 2 points      12 point font—Times New Roman
- \_\_\_\_ 3 points      Title---Centered, All caps, QS after
- \_\_\_\_ 3 points      DS Body, Indent paragraphs

### **Content:**

- \_\_\_\_ 5 points      Describe our current and local businesses/describe our main street
- \_\_\_\_ 5 points      Summarize the information from the city clerk and the storeowners.
- \_\_\_\_ 5 points      Analyze pros and cons of locating a business in Rural America
- \_\_\_\_ 5 points      Project how to attract entrepreneurs to rural communities

### **Paragraph Structure**

- \_\_\_\_ 5 points      1<sup>st</sup> paragraph—introduction—3-5 sentences (min.)
- \_\_\_\_ 5 points      Middle paragraph(s) supporting data
- \_\_\_\_ 5 points      Last paragraph—conclusion—3-5 sentences (min.)

### **Miscellaneous**

- \_\_\_\_ 2 points      Include within the essay a picture that we took downtown. Be sure to have a reference in the essay about the picture
- \_\_\_\_ 3 points      Have one bulleted list—3 bullets or more  
SS the list; DS before and after the list

### **Proofreading/Editing**

- \_\_\_\_ 17 points      Proofreading, spelling errors, sentence structure

**BE SURE YOUR SHEET WITH YOUR 3 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS IS ATTACHED.**

\_\_\_\_\_ (75 points)

## “Nostalgia Walkabout” Activity

### Hook:

Where did your grandparents live?

What house did they live in? Is their house still there? What does it look like?

What businesses have they talked about?

**Description:** Our class will be taking a walk down Main Street. Our tour guides (local historians) will describe a hustling, bustling main street the way it was at the height of its business day. Try to imagine the main street full of cars, people walking in and out of businesses with packages in their arms; the business hours posted on every door and the business owners typically greeted every newcomer.

### Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Visualize downtown rural America at the height of economic success.
- Summarize information acquired from historians.
- Analyze what happened to many main streets in rural America.
- Project how to rebuild rural America main streets.

### Assignment:

Write a 300 word essay on your experience with the ***Nostalgia Walkabout***. Be sure to answer the following questions *within* your essay.

Describe what your main street looked like back in the day?

What businesses did your guide describe to you?

What do you think happened to the main street businesses of your town?

Many main streets in rural America towns have empty buildings. What would it take to rebuild rural America main streets into thriving economic communities?

12 point font Times New Roman

Title Centered, All CAPS, Quadruple space between title and body of essay

Body double spaced, indent paragraphs

Spell check, proofread

Save as: Nostalgia Walkabout

Attach scoring rubric to the back of your essay

