**Writing to Persuade**

**GULF OIL SPILL**

**NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**PERIOD\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DATE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:**Complete the writing activity below. Read the prompt carefully. You may refer to all your previous work in this unit.

**Prompt:**   
As the governor of Alabama you will need to develop ways to help the coastal areas of the state recover from the oil spill, provide guidance in keeping tourism flowing to the affected areas and be involved in developing ways to protect the environment. Now you must write a persuasive report to the Alabama members of Congress in which you:  
...identify your specific areas of need  
...explain your reasons for choosing these areas  
...persuade them to commit time and resources to the affected areas.

**Before you write**Review the notes you took as you researched oil spills in other regions

**Contents of your report  
1.** the reasons for your opinions   
**2.**facts that support your reasons   
**3.**evidence on the effects of oil on marine life, economics and the environment.

**Format of your report  
1.** Organize your information so that it will be logical and persuasive.  
**2.** Your letter should show your clear understanding of the issues, sufficient supporting details, and the use of clear, correct, persuasive language.

**Writing mechanics** As you write, you should also do the following:

**1.** Use a pre-writing strategy, such as **listing**,**webbing**, or **concept mapping**, to organize supporting data, evidence, and logical arguments.  
**2.** Use these ideas to write a rough draft  
**3.** Self evaluate, using the rubric provided, keeping in mind that you are writing an important business report.  
**5.** Have your peers to evaluate and react, using the same rubric and also the [peer response](http://ed.fnal.gov/linc/fall96/projects/jmueller/LA1PEER.HTM) form.  
**6.** Revise your work, taking into consideration the responses given during the evaluation of your writing.  
**7.** Check over your work. Proofread, using the [proofreading](http://ed.fnal.gov/linc/fall96/projects/jmueller/LA2PROOF.HTM) guidesheet  
**8.** Prepare a final copy of your work.