**Speech & Debate I**

**Midterm Exam**

**Mr. Harrow**

**Prompt**

***In 400-500 words, make a case for what you believe is the most pressing political issue facing the United States in 2017.***

Your response must identify an issue, justify its importance, and propose a course of action or ideal solution that you believe politicians should pursue in 2017.

While this response is based on your opinion, you must also cite relevant evidence to support your claims. This research must be cited in-text, and you must include a Works Cited list. The Works Cited list does not count towards the 400-500 word limit.

Evidence may include data, academic studies, current events reporting, expert testimony (quotes), or any other relevant information from a credible source.

If you are having trouble – try to organize your response into two paragraphs:

Paragraph 1 – What is the most pressing issue?

* Claim: Identify the issue
* Warrants: Explain what’s going on with the issue (who/what/when/where/why/how)
* Impacts: Justify why the issue is the most important

Paragraph 2 – What should be done

* Claim: Identify the action/solution
* Warrant: Explain how it can/should work
* Impacts: Explain what is would solve and/or what would get better

**Even if you choose to follow the outline above, your final response MUST BE WRITTEN IN PARAGRAPH FORMAT USING COMPLETE SENTENCES.**

***All responses must be typed and submitted to Mr. Harrow via hard copy***

Due Dates

1st Block – Jan 18

2nd Block – Jan 19

3rd Block – Jan 20

4th Block – Jan 23