**SOAPS**

**What is the Subject?**

The subject consists of the general topic and/or main idea contained in the text, as well as the form or genre of the text. State the subject in a few words or a short phrase (i.e., an editorial about the American Bicentennial; a speech about discrimination; a political cartoon about the Civil War).

**What is the Occasion?**

The occasion of a text has two very critical elements: (1) the time and place of the text and (2) the event or catalyst causing the writing of the text to occur.

**Who is the Audience?**

The audience is the group of readers to whom this piece is directed. The audience may be one person, a small group, or a large group; it may be a certain person or a certain people (i.e., advocates for women’s rights; City Council members, principal of St. John Paul II Catholic High School).

**What is the Purpose?**

The purpose is the reason(s) behind the writing of the text. In analyzing a text, you usually state the purpose in *infinitive* form (*to* + a strong verb) with clarifying details (i.e., *to criticize* the British government for its involvement in imperialism; *to express* personal feelings about a past abuse). Purpose statements require strong verbs to communicate not only the reason(s) but also the tone.

**Who is the Speaker?**

The speaker is the individual or collective voice behind the text (i.e., the President of the United States, the people of Texas).

*Answer completely and thoroughly in paragraph form. Put serious thought into your answers.*

Summarize how MLK generally felt about civil disobedience (non-violently protesting laws he saw as morally wrong). Do you generally support civil disobedient actions? In what circumstances would you choose to act civilly disobedient? Explain.