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### Review 1: Prompt and Theme

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

*Before writing a draft of the essay, students should clarify the essay's theme. Use this rubric to determine if the theme is clear.*

The theme includes two parts: 1) What happened? and 2) Why does it matter?	Yes	No
Part 1 (What happened) focuses on a specific incident, story or example	Yes	No
This incident/story/example occurred in the relatively recent past; not when the writer was in middle school	Yes	No
Part 2 (Why does it matter) focuses on a characteristic or characteristics that the writer wants to share with readers	Yes	No
The theme adds something to the application, and does not simply repeat information that readers will already know	Yes	No
The theme addresses the essay prompt	Yes	No
If you answered No to any of these questions, note whether you think you should make an exception or the writer needs to make changes before moving forward		
What other questions or suggestions do you have for the writer?		

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