Prompt:

Compare/Contrast the rhetorical strategies King employs in his “Letter from Birmingham Jail” with those he used in his “Selma Conclusion Address”.

- Why were certain strategies more appropriate for a speech than for an essay or a letter?
- How did these texts affect the overall progress of the Civil Rights Movement? (Think author’s purpose)

Use your notes from the “Selma” movie analysis, your notes for each of these texts, and the critical thinking questions for “Letter from Birmingham Jail” to help with crafting your essay.

Hint - - Pay close attention to the following rhetorical strategies:

Allusion
Juxtaposition
Modes of Discourse
Appeals
Form
Content
Parallel Sentence

Rhetorical questioning
Repetition
Antithesis
Figurative Language
Syntax
Positive Language
9 - Impressive (100%) Essays earning a score of 9 meet the criteria for a score of 8 and, in addition, are especially sophisticated in their argument, thorough in their development or impressive in their control of language.

8 - Effective (88%) Essays earning a score of 8 effectively analyze* how [Author] uses rhetorical strategies to [present message to audience]. They develop their analysis with evidence and explanations that are appropriate and convincing, referring to the passage explicitly or implicitly. The prose demonstrates a consistent ability to control a wide range of the elements of effective writing but is not necessarily flawless.

7 - (77%) Essays earning a score of 7 meet the criteria for a score of 6 but provide more complete explanation, more thorough development or a more mature prose style.

6 - Adequate (66%) Essays earning a score of 6 adequately analyze* how [Author] uses rhetorical strategies to [present message to audience]. They develop their analysis with evidence and explanations that are appropriate and sufficient, referring to the passage explicitly or implicitly. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but generally the prose is clear.

5 - (55%) Essays earning a score of 5 analyze* how [Author] uses rhetorical strategies to [present message to audience]. The evidence or explanations used may be uneven, inconsistent or limited. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but it usually conveys the student’s ideas.

4 - Inadequate (44%) Essays earning a score of 4 inadequately analyze* how [Author] uses rhetorical strategies to [present message to audience]. These essays may misunderstand the passage, misrepresent the strategies [Author] uses or analyze these strategies inaccurately. The evidence or explanations used may be inappropriate, insufficient or less convincing. The prose generally conveys the student’s ideas but may be less consistent in controlling the elements of effective writing.

3 - (33%) Essays earning a score of 3 meet the criteria for a score of 4 but demonstrate less success in analyzing* [Author’s] use of rhetorical strategies to [present message to audience]. They are less perceptive in their understanding of the passage or [Author’s] strategies, or the explanation or examples may be particularly limited or simplistic. The essays may show less maturity in control of writing.

2 - Little Success (22%) Essays earning a score of 2 demonstrate little success in analyzing* how [Author] uses rhetorical strategies to [present message to audience]. These essays may misunderstand the prompt, misread the passage, fail to analyze the strategies [Author] uses, or substitute a simpler task by responding to the prompt tangentially with unrelated, inaccurate or inappropriate explanation. The prose often demonstrates consistent weaknesses in writing, such as grammatical problems, a lack of development or organization, or a lack of control.

1 - (11%) Essays earning a score of 1 meet the criteria for a score of 2 but are undeveloped, especially simplistic in their explanation or weak in their control of language. 0 Indicates an on-topic response that receives no credit, such as one that merely repeats the prompt, or presents an open letter to the readers about testing in general.

** Any essays receiving a score of 3 or less MUST be rewritten and submitted within 2 days.**