TOPIC 1

An education is important because it helps people support themselves and be useful in society. But when there is a war, schools and homes are destroyed. Right now, in Gaza, schools are being used as places for refugees. Safety, food, and shelter come first, and often everyone forgets education. One important idea during war is to try to continue with even a little learning, for example one or two hours a day. Maybe there won't be enough teachers, but one person can teach students some math and another person can help them with reading and writing. Even a small amount of education will help children have a positive future. (109 words)

TOPIC 2

When I was in elementary school, my family lived in England for a year. When it was time to go back home, I was really sad to leave Oxford. I liked all the things that made me feel like I was in the U.K. like double-decker buses and mincemeat pie. I loved school too and didn't want to leave my friends. One thing that helped me was that my class made a memory album for me. My family also took a lot of pictures and made a scrapbook. Finally, my mother encouraged me to look toward the future rather than stay in the past. Looking forward really helped me feel cheerful again. (112 words)