Now that you have had a chance to work with the essay section of the BCT, I want you to look at the writing task that I have given you. You are going to be responsible for completing the writing task. Once you have completed the writing task, you will be giving your paper to another student and they will be grading that paper, so please write neatly and clearly.

**Writing Task: Read and Review**

The citizens of Owdijtown are currently upset. There is a food shortage in Owdijtown that cannot seem to be solved. The main reason for the food shortage is a small insect called the locust.

The locust is a cricket like insect that will eat any crops in its path. On their own they are fairly harmless, however locusts normally swarm in the hundreds of millions. The locusts that have attacked Owdijtown are voracious and have caused millions of dollars of damage to the crops.

Currently the mayor of Owdijtown is looking to create a new system to manage the locust population that is starting to destroy the crops of the town. He was presented with the data below.

As the lead science council for the mayor, it is up to you to give an informed opinion about how to most effectively manage the locust problem. There are two different major chemical sprays that are used to deal with locusts.

In your letter to the mayor, be sure to include the pros and cons of both sprays, what spray would be the most cost effective and your recommendation for Owdijtown.

Table 1 – Pesticide Data

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | RaidX Chemical | Locust – B - Gone |
| Cost | $1000/acre | $250/acre |
| Effectiveness | Kills 99% of locusts | Kills 97% of locusts |
| Time to apply | Two days to apply | One Day to apply |
| Time to kill locusts | Kills in 24 – 48 hours | Kills in one to two weeks |
| Risks to workers | Harmful if ingested by humans, workers must wear protective gear | Non harmful to humans |

Table 2 – Owdijtown Data

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Owdijtown Data | |
| Population of Locusts | Between 200 million and 300 million |
| Area Affected | 300 acres |
| Money in Pest Control Budget | $200,000 |
| Amount of Time Affected by Locusts | 2 Weeks |