“The Long Walk” Prompt

The Long Walk 1864—you are there . . .

You have surrendered to the American cavalry and walked 300 miles to a relocation facility. Along the way, friends and loved ones died: victims of disease, starvation, exhaustion, enemies. Fort Sumner conditions are no better. Crops fail and starvation is rampant. After four long years, you are finally able to return to your native land. Determined to see Navajo dignity and self-reliance reemerge, write a letter to future generations that acknowledges these atrocities yet encourages hope and strength.