

## Expository Writing Prompts

- A. As part of a school project, you have been asked to bring three items that show a lot about you. What three would you choose? Describe each item in detail and then explain why you chose that item.
- B. You have a pen pal in Africa who knows nothing about the American junior high school system. Write your pen pal a letter that explains to him or her what a junior high is. Include details about your day at junior high.
- C. Everyone has someone who has made a big difference in his or her life. Write about someone who has influenced your life. Describe the person who has been important to you. Be sure to explain why and how this person has changed your life.
- D. You have won \$1,000,000. Describe what you would do with the money and why.
- E. Your teacher asks you to write an essay describing the "perfect Saturday." What would you do? Who would you spend it with? Where would you go? Organize your thoughts and write your essay. Be sure to cover every aspect of the day.

## Persuasive Writing Prompts

- A. Your parents have decided the whole family will turn off the TV for an entire month. Do you agree with this decision or do you think it is horrid? Convince your parents either that their idea is a good one that will benefit everyone or that their idea will do more harm than good.
- B. You are entering a writing contest entitled, "The Best Friend in the World." Write an essay about your best friend that will convince the judges to award you the prize. Remember to use specific examples when you explain why your friend is the best.
- C. You're a seventh grader, not a baby. Why don't your parents realize this? What privilege or responsibility are your parents not giving you because they think you're too young? Write them a letter, convincing them you are old enough for this privilege. Be sure to use arguments that will convince them to accept your point of view.

## 2006 Released Expository

Imagine you are going to put one or two special possessions in a storage box for your future grandchildren to show them what you are like and/or what you enjoy doing. Write a multiple-paragraph essay for your teacher explaining what you would choose to put in the box and why.

## 2006 Released Persuasive

Some seventh graders attend schools where their teachers do not accept late homework. Your principal is thinking of making this a rule at your school. Take a position on the rule. Write a multiple-paragraph letter to your principal to persuade him or her to support your position.

#### 2005 Released Expository

Your teacher has learned that a seventh-grade student from another state will be moving to your area. Write a multiple-paragraph letter to the new student explaining what it is like to live in your community.

#### 2005 Released Persuasive

Your teacher wants to change the activities offered in your physical education class. Identify one activity that should be added or dropped, and write a multiple-paragraph letter to persuade your teacher to add or drop this activity.

#### 2004 Released Expository

Suppose a new teacher has come to your school. In a multiple-paragraph letter, explain to this teacher what is important to know about teaching seventh-grade students at your school.

#### 2004 Released Persuasive

Your principal is considering inviting a singer or musical group to perform for students at your school to raise money for a local charity. If you could invite anyone, whom would you choose? In a multiple-paragraph letter, persuade your principal to invite the singer or group of your choice.

#### 2003 Released Expository

Imagine that you had a chance to meet anyone you wish. Whom would you choose? Write a multiple-paragraph letter to your teacher in which you explain why you would like to meet that person.

#### 2003 Released Persuasive

Many students in your school feel that they should have a 10-minute break in the morning and afternoon. Decide if you agree or disagree with this proposal. Write a multiple-paragraph letter to your principal persuading him or her to support your position.

#### 2002 Released Expository

Write a multiple-paragraph letter to a person from 100 years ago explaining what it is like to be someone your age in the year 200X.

#### 2002 Released Persuasive

Write a multiple-paragraph letter to a seventh-grade student from another country to persuade him or her to select your community as the place to live for a year.

Assigned Friday - Final Draft due Today!!!

Essay Writing Prompt:

2002 Released Expository

Write a multiple-paragraph letter to a person from 100 years ago explaining what it is like to be someone your age in the year 2008.

Things to remember:

1. You are writing a letter to inform
2. You need an opening and concluding Bang
3. Your thesis needs to focus on prompt ("it is exciting, challenging, great... to be 13 in 2008")
4. You need 3 Main Ideas (body paragraphs that support your thesis)
5. Transitions and to elaborate your main ideas
6. Edit/Revise Carefully
7. Give your BEST effort

## Outline

Bang

Thesis (topic)

Formula

Body 1

Transition

Main Idea

Support (reasons, facts, details...)

Support

Support

Body 2

Transition

M I

S  
S  
S

### Body 3

Transition

M I

S  
S  
S

### Conclusion

Restate Thesis

End with a Bang