

Elementary

Writing Activities to Accompany Reading

Indiana
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Working Together for Student Success

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Tips for Using Writing Prompts

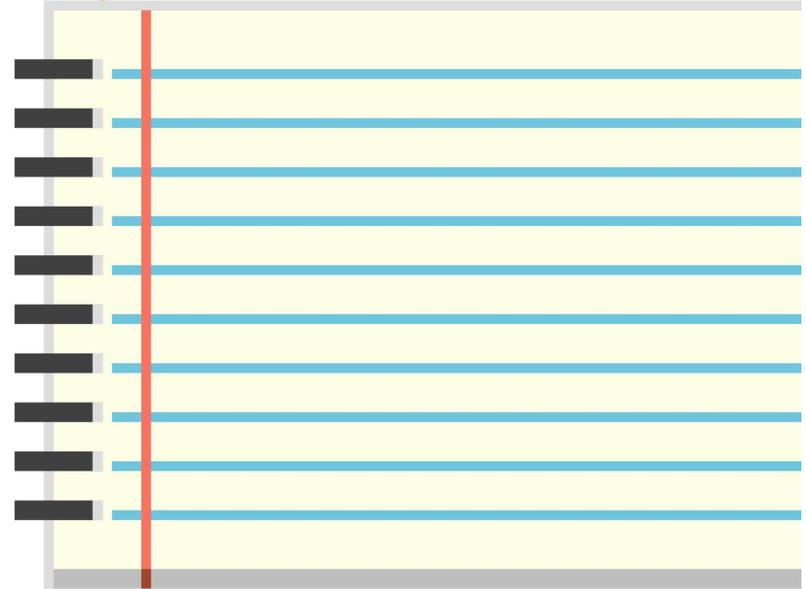
Writing prompts are often used as part of reading assignments or part of writing time. A student may encounter a prompt following a read aloud, on a classroom test, or most commonly, on a standardized test.

We encourage these writing prompts opportunities for students to practice coming up with an idea, organizing supporting details, and meeting grade level grammar and mechanics expectations. Time limits can be anywhere from 20-45 minutes.



Elements to Include

1. Illustration→ have your child draw a picture to match their thinking.
2. Writing that relates to the prompt.
3. Have your student reread their writing for grammar. First read silently then aloud. Allow them to stop and make changes.
4. Big changes? Rewrite or retype for a final copy.
5. Read the writing aloud to family member including pets!

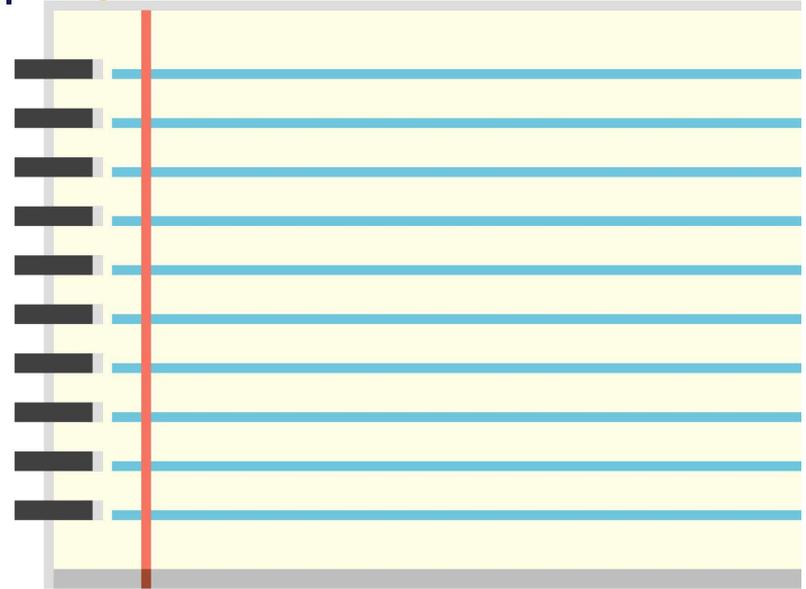


Paper Choice

Paper- preferable lined, but any paper will work.

Students may write with a pencil, pen, or preferred writing tool. The child and adult must be able to read the writing.

Practice typing using an onscreen or physical keyboard. Both are great!

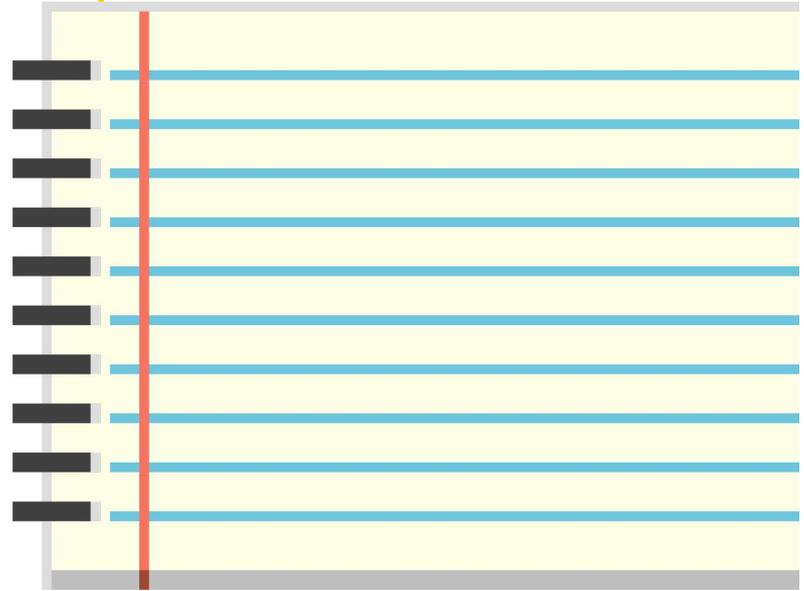


Writing Prompts

Below are prompts written for elementary students in kindergarten through grade 6.

Some prompts contain ways to increase or decrease the difficulty of the prompt.

Students may choose to include their illustrations below the prompt or on a separate sheet of paper.



Support

Click the following link for support understanding the different types of writing.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/18k2GDC5YrCPBIEf8nxHYEc4Vji8Cu3z86teZEhcfZ08/edit?usp=sharing>



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Prompts

Fiction: How did the writer keep your interest throughout the story/text?

Extra Challenge: Analyze the genre of the story/text. Is this a good example of the genre?



Prompts

Fiction: Write a new scene or chapter that would fit in the middle of the story.

Extra Challenge: Write a new scene or chapter for the middle the story. Then describe how this new scene or chapter would change the plot of the story including the resolution of the story.



Prompts

Fiction: Does the story match your life experiences?

Explain

Extra Practice: Has what happened in the story every happen to you? Explain how it is the same or different.

Extra Challenge: How do the events of the story provide an additional cultural view?



Prompts

Fiction: Would you read a sequel or additional book by the same author? Why or why not?

Extra Practice: What would you title a sequel or additional book?

Extra Challenge: Provide a synopsis of the sequel or additional book.



Prompts

Opinion and Persuasion: Should the story be made into a movie? Write an opinion piece that clearly supports your opinion.

Extra Practice: Would you watch a movie or TV show version of the book you read? Why or why not?

Extra Challenge: What are critical scenes and parts of the book that must be included in the movie adaptation?



Prompts

Fiction: From a book you just read, select either an important object or creature, and create a user manual or a guide explaining how to care for it.

Extra Practice: Draw and label the different parts of the creature. Write a daily schedule for the creature.

Extra Challenge: Create multiple sections of the user manual or guide explaining the needs in each part of the day for the creature.



Prompts

Nonfiction: How does the author view the topic?
How do you know?

Extra Practice: Do you agree or disagree with the author? Why?
Extra Challenge: How do the details provide an additional cultural view to what you know?



Prompts

Nonfiction: If your text is about an event, write a fictional narrative as if you were at the event.

If your text is about an animal, write a fictional narrative about coming in contact with that animal in the wild.

If your text is about a person, write a fictional narrative as if you met that person.



Prompts

Nonfiction persuasive: Should the information presented in the text be made into an educational video? Write an opinion piece that clearly supports your opinion.

Extra Practice: List three facts presented in the text.

Extra Challenge: Could the information presented be part of a current educational video or the basis for a new video?



Prompts

Nonfiction persuasive: Write a professional letter to the author persuading him or her to include an additional section when they update the book.

Extra Practice: What are some questions they could answer in the updated book?

Extra Challenge: What would these sections be titled and what questions should the text answer?



Works Cited

All prompts were taken from:

<https://www.literacyideas.com/reading-activities-for-any-book>

<http://www.uniqueteachingresources.com/creative-writing-prompts.html>

https://www.journalbuddies.com/journal_prompts_journal_topics/elementary-writing-prompts/

<https://www.thoughtco.com/quick-writing-prompts-p2-2081846>



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