

High School Practice Writing Prompts

| Persuasive - Practice | |
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| 1. | <p>Limiting Homework</p> <p>Some of the parents at your school have started a campaign to limit the homework that teachers can assign to students. Teachers at your school have argued that the homework is necessary. What is your position? Write a paper to convince your teacher of your position.</p> |
| 2. | <p>Advances in Technology</p> <p>All advances in technology come with positive and negative impacts. Some people believe all technologies are negative; others see the development of technology as the answer to all of our problems. Write a paper to convince others whether technology is positive or negative.</p> |
| 3. | <p>High School Success</p> <p>What is the single most important thing students need to know to succeed in high school? Write a paper to convince an incoming student to follow your advice so that he/she may succeed.</p> |
| 4. | <p>School Bullies</p> <p>Elementary and secondary schools around the country are beginning to actively address the problem of bullies. Write a paper to convince others whether schools or parents should address the problem of bullies.</p> |
| 5. | <p>Wealthy Celebrities</p> <p>Many celebrities - such as actors, musicians, models, or athletes - make a great deal of money. Do you agree or disagree that celebrities make more money than they deserve? Write a paper in which you convince the reader that your side of the issue is correct.</p> |
| 6. | <p>Live Forever</p> <p>If someone discovered a formula that would enable us to live forever would that be a blessing or a curse? Write a paper to convince others of your position.</p> |

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| Persuasive – Practice - Continued | |
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| 7. | Teen Curfew A curfew is when some people (such as teenagers) must be off the streets by a certain time at night. Write a paper to convince your readers of your opinion regarding curfews for teenagers. |
| 8. | Your Town Someone is thinking of moving to your town. Is your town appealing? Write a paper to convince them to move to your town or stay away. |
| 9. | Physical Education Many students object to the requirement of taking physical education, saying that it is not necessary. What do you think? Should P.E. remain a required course at your school? Write a paper to convince your principal of your point of view. |
| 10. | Separate Schools for Boys and Girls Years ago, in some cities, there were separate public schools for boys and girls, especially at the high school level. Boys went to one school and girls went to an entirely different school nearby. Write a paper to convince school officials whether or not boys and girls should go to different schools. |

High School Practice Writing Prompts

| Expository - Practice | |
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| 1. | <p>Community Flood</p> <p>A home in the community has been destroyed by a recent flood. Explain how you would help the family recover from the loss.</p> |
| 2. | <p>Interesting People</p> <p>We all remember certain people because they are interesting. Choose one interesting or unusual person you have known, and explain what makes that person so interesting to you.</p> |
| 3. | <p>Community Volunteer</p> <p>If you were given the opportunity to spend two hours each week working on a community task of your choice, explain where you would volunteer and why, what you would accomplish, and how it would benefit your community</p> |
| 4. | <p>Foreign Language Learning</p> <p>In our increasingly global society, many people feel that all students should be required to learn a foreign language before graduating from high school. Do you agree? Why or why not? Explain your position using specific reasons and examples.</p> |
| 5. | <p>Fun Skill to Learn</p> <p>Think of a skill you have learned that has made your life more fun, such as participating in sports or playing a musical instrument. Explain what you do, how you learned it, and why you think other people could benefit from it, too.</p> |
| 6. | <p>Good Leaders</p> <p>What makes a good leader? Explain what you think leadership is all about and what makes certain people better leaders than others. Support your definition of a good leader with examples so the reader clearly understands what you mean.</p> |
| 7. | <p>Different Personalities</p> <p>We all have different personalities, different ways of dealing with life, different points of view. What are the main elements of your personality? Write an essay explaining your personality to the reader.</p> |

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| Expository – Practice - Continued | |
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| 8. | Weekend Activities If the power in your town went out for a weekend, write a paper explaining what activities you would do to keep entertained. |
| 9. | Fun Activities Everyone has something they do to relax and have fun. What is your favorite thing to do to relax and have fun? Write a paper explaining why this is your preferred way to relax and have fun. |
| 10. | Benefits of Computers Identify how computers improve our daily lives. Write an essay in which you develop your position with supporting material and examples taken from your reading, experience, or observations. Explain how computers benefit you in your daily life. |

High School Practice Writing Prompts

| Narrative - Practice | |
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| 1. | <p>Procrastination</p> <p>Procrastination means delaying something. Tell a true story about a time when you or someone you know procrastinated.</p> |
| 2. | <p>Teaching Someone</p> <p>Tell a true story about a time when you taught something to someone. Be sure to include specific details so that the reader can follow your story.</p> |
| 3. | <p>Surprised</p> <p>Tell a true story about a time when you were surprised. It could be when you planned something and it did not turn out the way you thought it would.</p> |
| 4. | <p>Unprepared for a Test</p> <p>Think of a specific test that you took that you felt unprepared for and tell a true story about what happened. Your paper should help readers understand what it felt like to be unprepared.</p> |
| 5. | <p>Suddenly Understood</p> <p>Think of an experience when you realized that you suddenly understood an idea, a skill, or a concept you had been struggling with – it might be something related to a class that you took or a specific skill you were trying to learn. Tell a true story about your moment of understanding.</p> |
| 6. | <p>A Good Friend</p> <p>Ralph Waldo Emerson stated, “The only way to have a friend is to be one.” Tell a true story about a time when you were a good friend.</p> |
| 7. | <p>Learning Experience</p> <p>People learn from a variety of lessons and experiences. Tell a true story about an experience from which you learned something important.</p> |

High School Practice Writing Prompts

| Narrative – Practice - Continued | |
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| 8. | Asking for Help Some people are reluctant to ask for help when something is difficult. Tell a true story about when you had to do something difficult and you had to ask for help. |
| 9. | Witness Tell a true story about a time when you witnessed something unbelievable. |
| 10. | First Experience Everyone feels a certain thrill when doing something for the first time, such as riding in an airplane or driving a car. Tell a true story about a first experience you had, what it was like, and what your feelings were. |