

# Assessment

## Practice Writing Prompts - Middle School (Grades 6-7-8)

| Narrative  | Expository   |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Oregon has had some extreme weather in the past few years. <b>Tell a true story</b> about a fun or challenging time you had during bad or extreme weather.</li> <li>○ People often help each other. <b>Tell a true story</b> about a time when one person helped another, or when a group of people worked together to provide someone help.</li> <li>○ Many people influence us. Sometimes they introduce us to a new interest or hobby, or sometimes they affect our views on things. Think of someone who has had a significant influence on you and <b>tell a true story</b> about it.</li> <li>○ People learn things throughout their lives. <b>Tell a true story</b> about a time when you learned to do something.</li> <li>○ You don't have to spend money to have a good time. <b>Tell a true story</b> about when you had a great time without spending a lot of money.</li> <li>○ Walt Disney once said, "If you can dream it, you can do it." <b>Tell a true story</b> about a time when this was true for you or someone you know.</li> <li>○ Lots of people try to give us advice—parents, friends, brothers or sisters, teachers, etc. <b>Tell a true story</b> about a time you were given or gave advice. Tell if the advice was followed or not and the results.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bullying is a problem in many schools. <b>Write a paper to explain</b> what can be done about it.</li> <li>○ Looking back over your years in school so far, <b>explain</b> what you would want to tell your teachers that might help them teach other students more effectively.</li> <li>○ Think of an historical place or object that you have seen or read about. <b>Explain</b> what this place or object is and why it is interesting or important.</li> <li>○ What do you think is the best thing to do when someone says, "Who wants to go first?" or "Does anyone want to volunteer?" Write a paper to <b>explain</b> what you think is the best approach when you hear those words.</li> <li>○ Research shows that people communicate messages about who they are by the clothing they wear. <b>Explain</b> how and in what ways you think clothing sends messages to other people</li> <li>○ Students sometimes question how things they learn will help them in their later lives. Think of a positive learning experience that you have had and <b>explain</b> how what you learned will be useful to you in the future.</li> <li>○ <b>Explain</b> your dream home of the future and what would make it perfect for you.</li> </ul> |

# Practice Writing Prompts - Middle School (Grades 6-7-8)

| Persuasive  | Imaginative  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Your city or town would like to build something for the community to enjoy. <b>Write a paper to convince</b> your community that your idea of what to build is the one they should choose.</li> <li>○ Create a new Olympic event. Write a paper to <b>convince</b> the Olympics Committee to accept this new event.</li> <li>○ What are the qualities of a good leader? <b>Write a paper to convince</b> your class or team that you or someone you know has what it takes to be a leader.</li> <li>○ People have mixed feelings about the good and bad points of zoos and aquariums. Take a stand on this issue and <b>convince</b> others to agree with you.</li> <li>○ Playing video games has many pros and cons. Think about whether or not you, as a parent, would place a limit on the number of hours per day that your son or daughter could play video games. Take a position on this issue and <b>convince</b> other parents to agree with you.</li> <li>○ Think of something you would like to have changed or added in your school. It could relate to a school policy, a facility or building, or course offerings. Take a position on one specific issue and <b>convince</b> others to agree with you.</li> <li>○ People tell us that we need exercise to stay healthy. <b>Write a paper to convince</b> your reader to join you in an activity that will be fun as well as healthy.</li> <li>○ Things change. Write a paper in which you <b>persuade your reader</b> that an old or new idea, product, machine, or way of doing things is better than the alternative.</li> <li>○ What changes would you like to see in your school lunch program? <b>Write a paper to convince</b> your school to adopt your ideas.</li> <li>○ Choose an issue from your community (such as a leash law, community service, teenage curfew, or anything else). Take a position on that issue and <b>write a paper to convince</b> your reader to agree with your point of view.</li> <li>○ <b>Write a paper to convince</b> teenagers that they should make positive contributions to their families, schools, or communities.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Choose <u>one</u> of the following titles and <b>write an imaginative story</b>: “The Opened Window,” “The Hidden Shoebox,” or “The Messy Locker.”</li> <li>○ <b>Make up an imaginative story</b> that uses one of the following titles: “The Wrong Key” or “The Faded Jeans” or “The Antique Trunk.”</li> <li>○ Many people are dressing up their pets and taking them everywhere. Imagine you are a pet that has been dressed up by your owner and taken into an expensive restaurant or other public place where some people do not welcome pets. <b>Make up a story</b> about what happens.</li> <li>○ Suppose a person or family packed up for a vacation to one destination, but ended up somewhere else. <b>Write an imaginative story</b> about an event from a mixed-up vacation.</li> <li>○ <b>Make up a story</b> about one of the following: “An Unexpected Gift” <u>or</u> “The Deserted Barn” <u>or</u> “The Old Hat.”</li> <li>○ <b>Write an imaginative story</b> about what you would do if you could control time with a remote control: stop, rewind, fast forward, pause.</li> <li>○ Pretend you saw or found something mysterious. <b>Write an imaginative story</b> about what you saw and what happened.</li> <li>○ Imagine opening a door with a special key. <b>Write an imaginative story</b> about an adventure that begins when you open the door.</li> <li>○ <b>Make up a story</b> about one of the following: “An Unexpected Gift” or “The Deserted Barn” or “The Broken Window.”</li> <li>○ <b>Make up a story</b> using the following words as your topic: “Out of the star-filled sky...” or “If only I had read the directions...”</li> <li>○ Pretend that you are an inanimate object such as a wastebasket, a windshield wiper or something else of your choice. <b>Make up a story</b> about what happens.</li> </ul> |