

Year 9 2016

**Writing Prompts
Source Book**

It is cruel to keep animals in cages.

What do you think? Do you agree or disagree? Perhaps you can think of ideas for both sides of this topic.

Write to convince a reader of your opinions.

- **Start with an introduction.** An introduction lets a reader know what you are going to write about.
- **Write your opinions on this topic.**
Give reasons for your opinions. Explain your reasons for your opinions.
- **Finish with a conclusion.** A conclusion is a way to sum up your writing so that a reader is convinced of your opinions.

Remember to:

- plan your writing
- choose your words carefully to convince a reader of your opinions
- write in sentences
- pay attention to your spelling and punctuation
- use paragraphs to organise your ideas
- check and edit your writing so it is clear for a reader.



City or country?

Some people think the country is the best place to live.

Others think it is better to live in a city.

What do you think? Where is the best place to live?

Perhaps you think both places are good for different reasons.

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Explain your reasons for your opinions.

- **Finish with a conclusion.**

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WHAT COLORS ARE YOU?

Common Core: Writing Anchor Standard 2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.



What colors represent who you are or what you want your life to be about? What color stands out as being the best at representing who you are? Are you a cantaloupe? A lavender? Why? If you had to pick a few, which would you pick and why? Are you a dash of lemon on a sky background? A field of clover sprinkled with cherry? Explain and describe the unique mixture of colors that represent your view of yourself.

writingprompts.tumblr.com

BRUTAL COLD GRIPS REGION
Roads remain dangerous; most schools close a third day

Weather outside: Frightful
Polar vortex pain hits Florida

Brrrrrrrr!
Level 3 alert lifted despite bitter cold

Many schools use up their calamity days
Districts view options, such as adding class or online work, to make up time.

AFTER BIG FREEZE, HOOSIERS AWAIT THAW
worse before they improve, as flooding is likely after deluge of snow

Weather shatters records in Ohio
Akron-Canton area endures historic drop in temperature, stalled engines, canceled flights

Write an advice column on how to survive a polar vortex. How should people react? How can they stay warm? What kind of tips & tricks will help? You may want to begin with "Dear Reader,"

picture from parade.com; headlines from newseum.org

Create a brand new holiday with its own traditions, rituals, foods, and activities. Try to include baby echidnas, since they are far too cute to not be part of an important holiday.



Common Core:
Writing Anchor
Standard 2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

Make sure you introduce your topic, develop your topic with facts, definitions, and details, include linking words and phrases to connect ideas, and end with a concluding statement.

YOU ONLY GET TO CHOOSE FIVE PLANTS TO TAKE WITH YOU TO A NEW PLANET. WHICH PLANTS DO YOU TAKE AND WHY?

.....

Assume for the sake of the prompt that they will grow fine on the new planet. Do you take plants that provide food, medicine, beauty, or something else?

Common Core:
Writing Anchor
Standard 2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

**YOU GET A SET
OF MINIONS
FOR A WEEK.**



Common Core:
Writing Anchor:
Standard 3. Write
narratives to develop real
or imagined experiences,
or events using effective
technique, descriptive
details, and clear
event sequences.

TELL THIS STORY:

There it was, finally. Our island. Our very own island. It looked beautiful above the waves of fog, but there was still one question to be answered: why had they sold it to us for only five dollars?

Pick one from each list to make the most terrifying creature and scary animal combination. Explain why that combination is the most terrifying.

vampire
ninja
pirate
zombie
giant
mummy
witch
clown

alien
werewolf
yeti
goblin
wraith
demon

python
porcupine
alligator
shark
bear
bat
badger
wolf

armadillo
leopard
viper
lobster
monkey
pig
deer

Tell the story of Halloween from the perspective of a piece of candy.





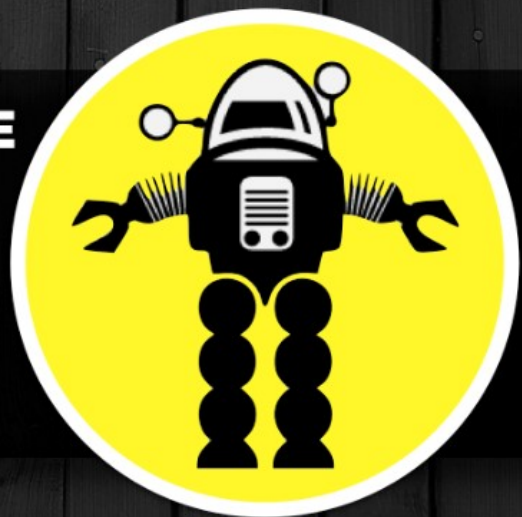
Common Core:
Writing Anchor
Standard 3: Write
narratives to develop real or
imagined experiences or
events using effective
technique, descriptive
details, and clear event
sequences.

This story
desperately needs
a happy ending.
Can you write it?

Common Core:
Writing Anchor
Standard 2: Write
informative/explanatory
texts to examine a topic and
convey ideas and
information clearly.

DESCRIBE YOUR FUTURE ROBOT SERVANT

Imagine a future in which we each have a personalized robot servant. What would yours be like? What would it do? What would it look like? What would it talk like? What features would it have?



What ideas can you contribute to a book titled **How to Survive a Boring Class?** What are some creative ways to avoid boredom while in school?

An aerial photograph of a densely packed urban area, likely a tenement neighborhood. The buildings are small and closely packed together. A large, semi-transparent blue circle is overlaid on the center of the image, containing white text. In the top right corner of the blue circle, there is a smaller white circle containing text. At the bottom left of the image, there is a small white text credit. At the bottom right of the image, there is a small white text credit.

WHAT THINGS WILL PEOPLE IN THE FUTURE SAY ABOUT HOW WE LIVE NOW?

Examples:
They really had no idea about medicine did they? Their bathroom situation was really disgusting. They ate that? They believed what?

Common Core:
Writing Anchor
Standard 2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

WRITINGPROMPTS.TUMBLR.COM

Image by flickr user kkoshy

Common Core:
Writing Anchor
Standard 3: Write
narratives to develop real
or imagined experiences or
events using effective
technique, descriptive
details, and clear event
sequences.

WHAT THE STUDENTS IMAGINE THEIR TEACHER'S LIFE IS LIKE...

As suggested by a student: "You always want us to reflect on our lives. It might be much more entertaining to write our imagined version of yours."

Common Core:
Writing Anchor
Standard 3: Write
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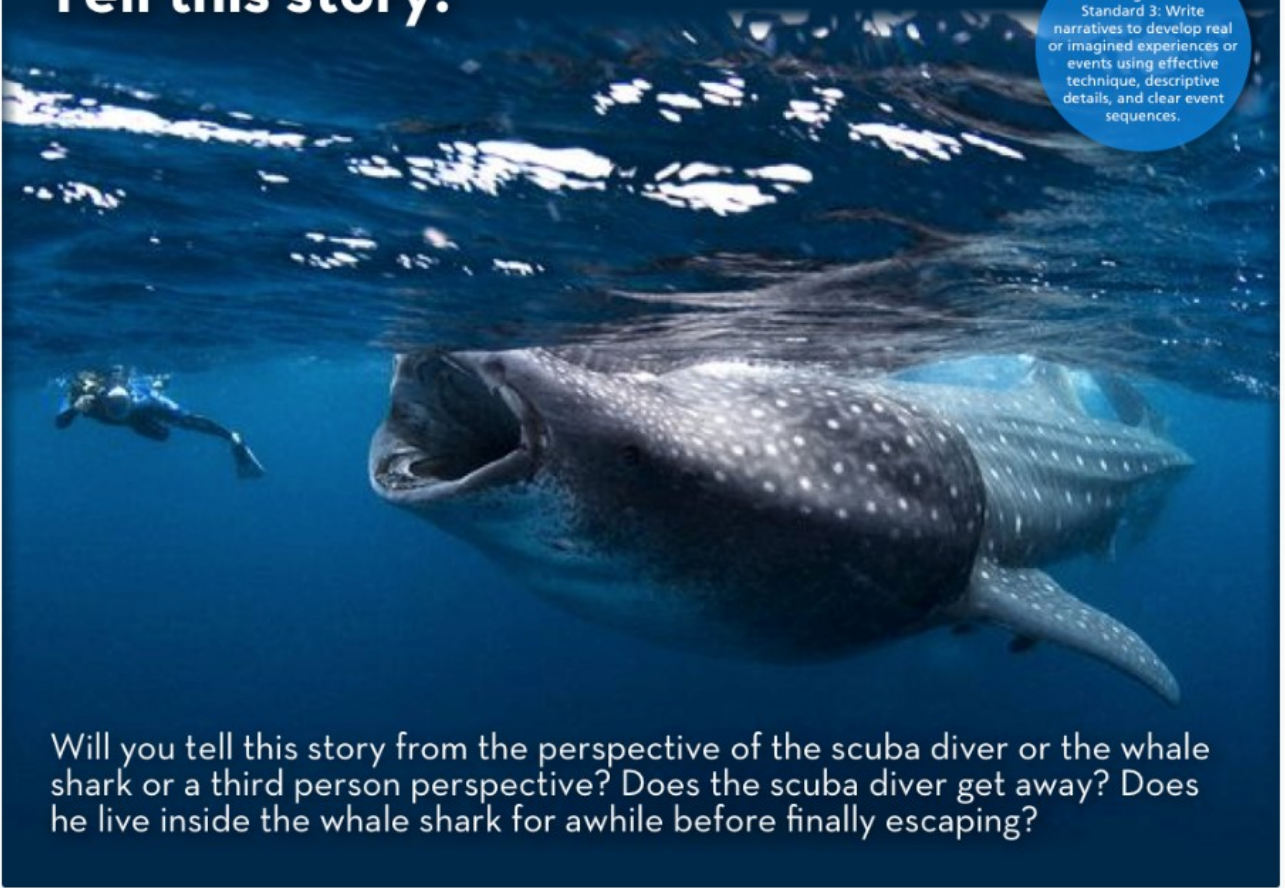
Finish this story:

Sometimes at dusk we would see him come out from the hidden interior of his island. For years we had no idea who he was or what he did until...



Tell this story:

Common Core:
Writing Anchor
Standard 3: Write
narratives to develop real
or imagined experiences or
events using effective
technique, descriptive
details, and clear event
sequences.



Will you tell this story from the perspective of the scuba diver or the whale shark or a third person perspective? Does the scuba diver get away? Does he live inside the whale shark for awhile before finally escaping?

Dinosaur Do Over?

Common Core:
Writing Anchor
Standard 1: Write opinion
pieces on topics or texts,
supporting a point of view
with reasons.



If we had the ability to bring dinosaurs back, should we? If we did bring dinosaurs back, what do you think would happen? What would be the pros and cons of having dinosaurs on the earth again? Do you think you would be in the group that was for bringing the dinosaurs back? Or do you think you'd be against having them on the planet again? What reasons would you give for your opinion on this?

forever carnivore or forever herbivore

If you were forced to spend the rest of your life as either a carnivore or an herbivore*, which would you choose? Would this bother you? How do you think this would affect your quality of life? How would the world change if everyone was forced to make this choice?



OR



* assume for the sake of the prompt that whichever diet you choose will provide adequate nutrition for your health



Which door?

Which door would you most like to step through? Why? What happens when you step through that door?

Either **explain** your choice or **tell a story** about what happens after you step through the door.

Common Core:
Writing Anchor Standard 2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

Common Core:
Writing Anchor Standard 3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

Write an instruction guide for parents on how to keep their children entertained over spring break.

Common Core:
Writing Anchor Standard 2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.



background image by flickr user CapturedbyKC / bored kids picture by flickr user justinffcc by 2.0.

Common Core:
Writing Anchor Standard 1: Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

Common Core:
Writing Anchor Standard 2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

Which three of these skills are the most important for success in life? Why those?

Patience / Common Sense / Humor / Courage / Creativity / Resourcefulness / Work Ethic / Organization / Integrity / Pride / Responsibility / Flexibility / Compassion / Love / Kindness / Self-Control / Obedience / Independence / Discernment / Wisdom / Initiative / Wit / Friendliness

You can choose to respond with an opinion piece that supports your point of view with plenty of reasons or with an informative/explanatory piece that conveys your ideas about this prompt clearly.

Common Core:
Writing Anchor
Standard 2: Write
informative/explanatory
texts to examine a topic and
convey ideas and
information clearly.

**Design and describe your
very own secret lair.**

Make sure you introduce your topic, develop your topic with facts, definitions, and details, include linking words and phrases to connect ideas, and end with a concluding statement.

Your writing prompt must start with this sentence:

I deserve

a day off

from school

because

...