

Readington Middle School
Writing Grade 7

Day 1

Descriptive Writing Prompts: Creating Details

Focus Trait: Ideas

Directions:

Using specific details helps the reader to create a picture in their mind. Think about the ideas that you need to include in your writing to help the reader imagine the scene. Start by using sensory details such as seeing, hearing, touching, tasting, and smelling.

Choose 1 of the prompts below and write for about 20 minutes or more. When you feel you have finished, rate your writing using the Idea Development Checklist.

Idea Development Checklist:

Rank **each** skill from 1 (low) to 5 (high) in the following:

- ___ My written ideas all relate to each other.
- ___ I stayed on topic throughout the entire writing.
- ___ My ideas are clear to my reader.
- ___ Details and examples enrich the central idea.
- ___ I use figurative language to enhance my writing.

7th Grade

Different teachers decorate their classes in different manners. Think of your idea of the perfect classroom. Is it colorful? Does it have desks or tables? What does it look like? How does it smell? Are there any sounds in it? Write an essay describing your idea of the perfect classroom.

Each season of the year is beautiful in some way. Think of which season is your favorite: winter, summer, spring or fall. Think of what your town looks like during that season. What does it feel like? Is there a smell or taste to it? Now write an essay describing an outdoor scene during your favorite season of the year.

Readington Middle School
Writing Grade 7

Day 2

Expository Writing Prompts: Explaining Your Ideas

Focus Trait: Organization

Directions:

Organizing your writing will help the reader to understand your ideas. Think about the order in which to put your ideas or paragraphs.

Choose 1 of the prompts below and write for about 20 minutes or more. When you feel you have finished, rate your writing using the Organization Checklist.

Organization Checklist:

Rank **each** skill from 1 (low) to 5 (high) in the following:

- ___ My introduction grabs the reader's attention.
- ___ My conclusion links back to my introduction.
- ___ I used transition words to move from idea to idea.
- ___ The order of my paragraphs is logical and effective.
- ___ Organization is so smooth, the reader hardly thinks about it.

7th Grade

1. Friends are important, but everyone has a different opinion of what makes a good friend. Explain what, in your opinion, makes a good friend.

2. Most people remember one day that really was special. Think about a special day you have had and explain why that day was so special.

Readington Middle School
Writing Grade 7

Day 3

Narrative Prompt: Writing a story

Focus Trait: Organization

Directions:

Organizing your writing will help the reader to understand the order of events. Think about what happens in the beginning, middle and end of your story.

Choose 1 of the prompts below and write for about 20 minutes or more. When you feel you have finished, rate your writing using the Organization Checklist.

Organization Checklist:

Rank **each** skill from 1 (low) to 5 (high) in the following:

- ___ The beginning of the story grabs the reader's attention.
- ___ There is a clear end to my story.
- ___ I used transition words to show a change in time or place.
- ___ The order of my paragraphs is logical and effective.
- ___ Organization is so smooth, the reader hardly thinks about it.

7th Grade

1. On your way to school one morning you see a huge truck speeding down the road. Suddenly, the back door of the truck opens and a large, mysterious box falls off the back of the truck. It sits there in the road. What is in the box? What do you do? Write a story about this mysterious box.

2. Imagine you could travel to the future and live there. Think of what you think the future would be like. How different would it be from today? Now, write a story about living in the future.

Readington Middle School
Writing Grade 7

Day 4

Persuasive Essay: Convincing Your Audience

Focus Trait: Voice

Directions:

Voice is all about "you" coming through your writing. It's what gives your writing personality or style. Think about your reader as you write. What will they be persuaded by?

Choose 1 of the prompts below and write for about 20 minutes or more. When you feel you have finished, rate your writing using the Voice Checklist.

Voice Checklist:

Rank **each** skill from 1 (low) to 5 (high) in the following:

___ I really tried to show passion about my topic by adding words to show my emotions.

___ If read aloud, it sounds like something I might really say.

___ I spoke right to the reader. I imagined how he or she will feel reading this.

___ I knew a lot about this topic and connected it to my own personal experiences.

7th Grade

1. Your teacher has asked for suggestions on a place to visit for a field trip. Where would you like to go? Now write to convince your reader to adopt your suggestion.
2. There is controversy going on in the country about requiring seat belts in school buses. What is your opinion? Should seat belts be required in all school buses? Write an essay to convince the powers-that-be of your opinion regarding the matter of whether seat belts should be required on school buses.

Readington Middle School
Writing Grade 7

Day 5

Poetry: Writing Free Verse

Focus Trait: Word Choice

Directions:

Write a poem about **ANYTHING** you want! In a free verse poem, the lines don't have to rhyme. Think about choosing vivid adjectives to describe the people, places, or things in your poem.

7th Grade

Suggested Topics:

- Colors
- Seasons
- Places (beach, mountains, desert, rainforest, playground, mall, zoo, the bottom of your closet, under your bed, etc.)
- People (family, friends, celebrities, athletes, politicians, etc.)
- Objects (toys, sport equipment, jewelry, clothing, furniture, electronics, etc.)
- Time (past, present or future)
- School (subjects, classes, clubs, activities, etc.)
- Memories or Feelings (happy, sad, angry, surprised, etc.)

**Readington Middle School
Writing Grade 7**

Day 6

Descriptive Writing Prompts: Using Vivid Vocabulary

Trait: Word Choice

Directions:

Using vivid vocabulary in your writing helps the reader to create a picture in their mind. Think about the words that you need to include in your writing to help the reader imagine the scene.

Choose 1 of the prompts below and write for about 20 minutes or more. When you feel you have finished, rate your writing using the Word Choice Checklist.

Word Choice Checklist:

Rank **each** skill from 1 (low) to 5 (high) in the following:

___ I found just the right words and phrases to make my meaning clear.

___ My words are succinct yet rich in meaning, unique to the author

___ My verbs are precise, purposeful, powerful and strong; nouns are rich and colorful; phrasing and word choice are unique

___ I use striking words and phrases that enrich the writing

7th Grade

1. We all eat to stay alive, but everyone has a favorite food. What is your favorite food in the world? What does it look like? How does it smell and taste in your mouth? Describe your favorite food so that your reader can see it and almost taste it as well.

2. Everyone has to shop for food or clothes sometime. Think of a store to which you like to go. What does it look like inside the store? Are there sounds? What do things feel like there? Does the store have a smell? Write a description of a store you like to visit so that your reader can feel as if he or she were there.

Readington Middle School
Writing Grade 7

Day 7

Expository Writing Prompts: Explaining Your Ideas

Focus Trait: Ideas

Directions:

Using specific details helps the reader to understand your ideas. Try to develop at least 3 main ideas to express your point of view.

Choose 1 of the prompts below and write for about 20 minutes or more. When you feel you have finished, rate your writing using the Idea Development Checklist.

Idea Development Checklist:

Rank **each** skill from 1 (low) to 5 (high) in the following:

- My written ideas all relate to each other.
- I stayed on topic throughout the entire writing.
- My ideas are clear to my reader.
- Details and examples enrich the central idea.
- I use figurative language to enhance my writing.

7th Grade

1. Many writers, scientists, and politicians have a view of what the world will be like 50 years from now. What do you think the world will be like by the time you are in your 60's? Think of the future and the direction you think the world is headed. Write an essay explaining what you believe the world will be like 50 years from now.

2. Your class is making a box to be seen in 2096. Write an essay explaining the one thing you put in that box and why.

Readington Middle School
Writing Grade 7

Day 8

Narrative Prompt: Writing a story

Focus Trait: Sentence Fluency

Directions:

Sentence fluency creates a flow or rhythm to you writing. Think about creating strong sentences that vary in length to help with sentence fluency. Using transition words and phrases can also help with sentence fluency.

Choose 1 of the prompts below and write for about 20 minutes or more. When you feel you have finished, rate your writing using the Sentence Fluency Checklist.

Sentence Fluency Checklist:

Rank **each** skill from 1 (low) to 5 (high) in the following:

- ___ My sentences mostly begin with different words.
- ___ I use a mixture of simple and complex sentences.
- ___ I use a variety of transitional words when I write.
- ___ If read aloud, you can hear a rhythm behind my sentences.
- ___ If I repeated anything, I did it for effect.

7th Grade

1. A little old lady gave you and a friend some magical glitter and told you to sprinkle it on your hair and something special would happen. What happened when you tried it? Write a story about this mysterious magical glitter.

2. Imagine you had a car that would take you anywhere you wanted to go for one day. Think of where you went in that car and what you did.

Write a story about that day.

Readington Middle School
Writing Grade 7

Day 9

Persuasive Essay: Convincing Your Audience

Focus Trait: Word Choice

Directions:

Using vivid vocabulary in your writing helps the reader to create a picture in their mind. It can also help to send an important message to your reader. Think about using words or phrases that are powerful and persuasive.

Choose 1 of the prompts below and write for about 20 minutes or more. When you feel you have finished, rate your writing using the Word Choice Checklist.

Word Choice Checklist:

Rank **each** skill from 1 (low) to 5 (high) in the following:

___ I found just the right words and phrases to make my meaning clear.

___ My words are succinct yet rich in meaning, unique to the author

___ My verbs are precise, purposeful, powerful and strong; nouns are rich and colorful; phrasing and word choice are unique

___ I use striking words and phrases that enrich the writing

7th Grade

1. A good friend of yours is thinking of moving to your town. Think of some attributes of your town that would appeal to your friend. Now write an essay to convince your friend to move to your town.

2. Parents, courts, and cities often impose curfews on teenagers. What do you think of curfews? Are they helpful in saving lives and keeping teenagers out of trouble, or are they just another insult to responsible teenagers? Think of some arguments to support your opinion.

Readington Middle School
Writing Grade 7

Day 10

Poetry: Writing with a Rhyme Scheme

Focus Trait: Word Choice

Directions:

Write a poem about **ANYTHING** you want! Sometimes poems have lines that rhyme. Write a poem that has lines that rhyme. Think carefully about the words you choose to create a rhyme pattern or scheme.

7th Grade

Suggested Topics:

- Colors
- Seasons
- Places (beach, mountains, desert, rainforest, playground, mall, zoo, the bottom of your closet, under your bed, etc.)
- People (family, friends, celebrities, athletes, politicians, etc.)
- Objects (toys, sport equipment, jewelry, clothing, furniture, electronics, etc.)
- Time (past, present or future)
- School (subjects, classes, clubs, activities, etc.)
- Memories or Feelings (happy, sad, angry, surprised, etc.)