

# English I Writing Expository Prompt

Read the following quotation.

"I want to get involved in things that make a difference in people's lives and lifts them up. I don't want to be a part of anything that's not inspiring or helpful to the community that I'm serving."

*-Russell Simmons  
American business magnate*

Imagine you were given the opportunity to spend a couple of hours a week on a community service of your choice.

Write an essay explaining where you would serve and why.

Be sure to –

- clearly state your thesis
- organize and develop your ideas effectively
- choose your words carefully
- edit your writing for grammar, mechanics, and spelling

**Expository Planning Organizer  
Sample for Guided Writing**

**Thesis statement: As a student, I believe that volunteer work in \_\_\_\_\_ would be the best way for me to serve and make a difference in my community.**

Main Ideas of the Thesis	
First Main Idea	Supporting Details
_____ benefits my community by providing many services and improvements.	Services provided for the community
	Benefits of providing these services
	Targeted cause
	Past accomplishments this certain organization/charity/service has provided
Second Main Idea	
I chose this type of community service for many reasons.	Personal experience/testimony
	Passion for the cause
	Personal interest for future career
	Goals hoped to accomplish

**Concluding Statements: \_\_\_\_\_ is very important to the community around me. By participating in \_\_\_\_\_, I hope to learn new things and grow as a person while doing so.**

## I. Introduction

Thesis - As a student, I believe that volunteer work in \_\_\_\_\_ would be the best way for me to serve and make a difference in my community.

## II. Body

MI - \_\_\_\_\_ benefits my community by providing many services and improvements.

- Services provided for the community
- Benefits of providing these services
- Targeted cause
- Past accomplishments this certain organization/charity/service has provided

MI - I chose this type of community service for many reasons.

- Personal experience/testimony
- Passion for the cause
- Personal interest for future career
- Goals hoped to accomplish

## III. Closing

Thesis and PT - \_\_\_\_\_ is very important to the community around me.

By participating in \_\_\_\_\_, I hope to learn new things and grow as a person while doing so.

# Collaborative Interactive Writing Activity

Teacher directions - cut apart each part of the writing plan.

- Provide each group a part of the essay.
- Draft each paragraph using the plan provided.



Add a meaningful hook or lead to grab your reader's attention. Use this thesis or develop one with a similar idea.

## I. Introduction

Thesis - As a student, I believe that volunteer work in \_\_\_\_\_ would be the best way for me to serve and make a difference in my community.

Write a topic sentence with the MI. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

## II. Body

MI - \_\_\_\_\_ benefits my community by providing many services and improvements.

- Services provided for the community
- Benefits of providing these services
- Targeted cause
- Past accomplishments this certain organization/charity/service has provided

Write a topic sentence with the MI. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

MI - I chose this type of community service for many reasons.

- Personal experience/testimony
- Passion for the cause
- Personal interest for future career
- Goals hoped to accomplish

Use the restated thesis or develop one with fresh new words. Use the parting thought or develop a new one to leave your audience with a thoughtful closing.

## III. Closing

Thesis and PT - \_\_\_\_\_ is very important to the community around me. By participating in \_\_\_\_\_, I hope to learn new things and grow as a person while doing so.

## Planning Guide

### Expository

- I. Introductory paragraph
  - A. Topic included in the thesis statement
  - B. Main ideas of the composition
- II. Body paragraphs
  - A. Main idea stated in a topic sentence\*
  - B. Supporting detail\*\*
    - 1. Examples
    - 2. Cause and effect
    - 3. Personal experiences
- III. Concluding paragraph
  - A. Thesis statement
  - B. Main ideas of the composition
  - C. General parting thought

\* No set number of ideas or details

\*\* Other elaboration methods may be equally effective.

# Planning Organizer

## Expository

### Thesis statement

Main Ideas of the Thesis	
First Main Idea	Supporting Details
Second Main Idea	Supporting Details
Third Main Idea	Supporting Details

### Concluding Statement

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## Revision Checklist Expository

Introductory Paragraph				Concluding Paragraph
Topic _____	Main Ideas			Topic _____
Thesis _____	1 <sup>st</sup> Idea _____ E____ CE____ PE____ Other_____	2 <sup>nd</sup> Idea____ E____ CE____ PE____ Other_____	3 <sup>rd</sup> Idea____ E____ CE____ PE____ Other_____	Thesis _____
Main Ideas 1. _____				Main Ideas _____
2. _____				Parting Thought _____
3. _____				

### Sentence Variations

**Compound Sentence with correct comma usage before the FANBOYS \_\_\_\_\_**

**Complex Sentences with correct comma, based on subordinate conjunction placement**

**BONUS! Compound Complex Sentences with correct comma usage \_\_\_\_\_**

### Detail Sentence Leads – Author’s Craft: Place checkmarks next to the detail leads.

Details that Describe	Action Details	Persuasive Details	Details that Inform	Dialogue Details
State the obvious	Act and think	If...then	State the opposite	“Dialogue” with tags
Just like that	But, why???	Take the opposite side	What’s Next?	Instead of <i>said</i>
Action, action, action clues	Numbers date/time/value	Good insightful question(s)	High Interest – what’s next	Talking and thinking
In the middle	Location transition	Imagine this...	Positive sweet with a negative sour	Action and words
Zoom in & describe	Adverb comma	It’s complicated and complex	For the first time ever..	Tell me about it
Intentional repetition	<i>ings</i> phrases present participles	Now...Then	Define it	
Pop culture	Eds phrases	We... statements of unity	AKA – proper nouns	
Personification people characteristics	Onomatopoeia (sound)	Call to action	In other words (restatement)	
Set the stage		Hyperbole exaggerate!	Important or significant	
I, we, they think			Love, love, love	
			Historical reference	

