

## Expository Writing Prompt

**Read** the information in the box below.

Breed of Dog	Temperament	Activity Level and Behaviors	Size
Border Collie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Protective of loved ones</li><li>• Gentle, intelligent, kind</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Very playful</li><li>• Needs regular exercise</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Large</li></ul>
Boston Terrier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Needs much attention</li><li>• Loves indoor environments</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Protective of territory</li><li>• Loves human attention</li><li>• Barks to show warning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Small</li></ul>
Labrador Retriever	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Loving and patient</li><li>• Likes to play</li><li>• Enjoys the water</li><li>• Wants to feel like part of the family</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Does not need a large yard if able to exercise regularly</li><li>• Shows affection</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Large</li></ul>

**Think** about which breed of dog you would want as a pet.

**Write** about which breed of dog you would want as a pet. Explain the reasons you choose that breed of dog for your pet.

Be sure to –

- clearly state your central idea
- organize your writing
- develop your writing in detail
- choose words carefully
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences

**Expository Planning Organizer**  
**Sample for Guided Writing**

**Central Idea**

I would choose a Labrador retriever as my pet.

Main Ideas about the Central Idea	
First Main Idea	Supporting Details
Loves human attention	We treat a pet like a member of the family.
	Travel with it
	Let it stay in the house
	My grandmother had a Lab.
Second Main Idea	Supporting Details
Likes to play and swim	Family loves water sports
	Go to the lake
	Last summer vacation in Corpus Christi
Third Main Idea	Supporting Details
Does not need a large yard	Our family is active, but we don't have a large yard.
	Go to the park
	Jog and walk

**Concluding Statement**

Considering the size of our yard, our love for water sports and our love for our pets, a Labrador retriever is the dog for me. And I want it now!

## I. Introduction

(hook)

CI – I would choose a Labrador retriever as my pet.

## II. Body

MI – Loves human attention

- We treat a pet like a member of the family
- Travel with it
- Let it stay in the house
- My grandmother had a lab

MI – Likes to play and swim.

- Family loves water sports
- Go to the lake
- Last summer vacation in Corpus Christi

MI – Does not need a large yard

- Our family is active, but we don't have a large yard
- Go to the park
- Jog and walk

## III. Closing

CI and PT – Considering the size of our yard, our love for water sports and our love for our pets, a Labrador retriever is the dog for me. And I want it now!

# 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 readers attention. Use this central idea or develop one with a similar idea.

## I. Introduction

CI - I would choose a Labrador retriever as my pet.

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

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

## II. Body

MI - Loves human attention

- We treat a pet like a member of the family
- Travel with it
- Let it stay in the house
- My grandmother had a lab

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

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

MI - Likes to play and swim.

- Family loves water sports
- Go to the lake
- Last summer vacation in Corpus Christi

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

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

MI - Does not need a large yard

- Our family is active, but we don't have a large yard
- Go to the park
- Jog and walk

Use the restated central idea 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

CI and PT - Considering the size of our yard, our love for water sports and our love for our pets, a Labrador retriever is the dog for me. And I want it now!

## **Planning Guide**

### **Expository**

#### **I. Introductory paragraph**

- A. Topic and central idea of the composition
- 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. Topic and central idea of the composition
- 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

**Topic and Central Idea** \_\_\_\_\_

Main Ideas about the Central Idea	
First Main Idea	Supporting Details
Second Main Idea	Supporting Details
Third Main Idea	Supporting Details

**Concluding Statement**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Revision Checklist Expository

Introductory Paragraph				Concluding Paragraph
Topic ____	Main Ideas			Topic ____
Central Idea ____	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____	Central Idea ____
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	

Make writing meaningful before the prompt.  
This idea makes this prompt fun!

**Informal Writing Activity Springboard:** Click on the link and view this brief video on Labrador retrievers.

<https://animoto.com/play/PRsZdV2b4ps1pfNNJhnZ0Q>

