

English I Writing Expository Prompt

Read the following.

Beethoven said that it's better to hit the wrong note confidently, than hit the right note unconfidently. Never be afraid to be wrong or to embarrass yourself; we are all students in this life, and there is always something more to learn.

In today's world, there are many activities from which to choose. Sometimes these activities make memories that may last a lifetime.

Write an essay explaining what makes a good student. Describe the qualities and why these qualities are beneficial.

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: Grit is the most vital factor to a student in class and for the student of life. It takes a person beyond the comfort zone and beyond the fear of failure.

Main Ideas of the Thesis	
First Main Idea	Supporting Details
Tough school assignments	Subject: _____
	Want to give up
	Dig deep inside yourself
	Don't give up
	Grow your grit
Second Main Idea	
Difficult social situations	Friends
	Internal self-talk can build confidence
	Meet the challenge
	Maybe not a bad situation after all
Third Main Idea	
A student of life	New life lessons
	Force yourself to get through it
	Can continue to be good students of life after high school is long over

Concluding Statements: There are classes that require one to gather inner strength to learn valuable lessons. This grit is what makes a great student in school...and in life.

I. Introduction

Thesis - Grit is the most vital factor to a student in class and for the student of life. It takes a person beyond the comfort zone and beyond the fear of failure.

II. Body

MI - Tough school assignments

- Subject: _____
- Want to give up
- Dig deep inside yourself
- Don't give up
- Grow your grit

MI - Difficult social situations

- Friends
- Internal self-talk can build confidence
- Meet the challenge
- Maybe not a bad situation after all

MI - A student of life

- New life lessons
- Force yourself to get through it
- Can continue to be good students of life after high school is long over

III. Closing

Thesis and PT - There are classes that require one to gather inner strength to learn valuable lessons. This grit is what makes a great student in school...and in life.

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 - Grit is the most vital factor to a student in class and for the student of life. It takes a person beyond the comfort zone and beyond the fear of failure.

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

II.

Body

MI - Tough school assignments

- Subject: _____
- Want to give up
- Dig deep inside yourself
- Don't give up
- Grow your grit

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

MI - Difficult social situations

- Friends
- Internal self-talk can build confidence
- Meet the challenge
- Maybe not a bad situation after all

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 – A student of life

- New life lessons
- Force yourself to get through it
- Can continue to be good students of life after high school is long over

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 – There are classes that require one to gather inner strength to learn valuable lessons. This grit is what makes a great student in school...and in life.

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

Revision Checklist Expository

Introductory Paragraph				Concluding Paragraph		
Topic _____	Main Ideas			Topic _____		
Thesis _____	1 st Idea _____ E_____	2 nd Idea_____	3 rd Idea_____	Thesis _____		
Main Ideas 1. _____				Main Ideas _____		
2. _____				CE_____	CE_____	Parting Thought _____
3. _____				PE_____	PE_____	
				Other_____	Other_____	Other_____

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	

