

Expository Writing Prompt

Read the following quote.

“Hold on tightly to the sizzling summer memories of best friends and barbeque, sunning and swimming. With school now started, routines and schoolwork wake us up at dawn.”

Unknown Teacher

Think about your summer experiences and the new school year.

Write an essay explaining one reason summer break seems difficult to end at the start of a new school year.

Be sure to –

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

Expository Planning Organizer Sample for Guided Writing

Controlling Idea

The end of summer means the end of sleeping in with no schedules to follow. The good news is you get to see your friends more.

Main Ideas about the Controlling Idea	
First Main Idea	Supporting Details
Most people enjoy sleeping in late.	Stay up until all hours of the night
	Enjoy sleeping in late
	Body gets the rest it needs
	But you can get lazy and be unproductive
Second Main Idea	
There are no routines or schedules.	No routines or schedules means no rushing
	Relaxing days
	Getting to do whatever you want
	Work at your own pace on your own projects
Third Main Idea	
Friends make it better.	Students have friends at school
	Teachers have fun activities for you and your friends
	See each other daily

Concluding Statement

The first few weeks of school may make you sleepy, and they may be hard to adjust to. But, it helps to know that school friends make it all better. Welcome school year 20__ - 20__!

I. Introduction (hook)

CI – The end of summer means the end of sleeping in with no schedules to follow. The good news is you get to see your friends more.

II. Body

MI – Most people enjoy sleeping in late.

- Stay up until all hours of the night
- Enjoy sleeping in late
- Body gets the rest it needs
- But you can get lazy and be unproductive

MI – There are no routines or schedules.

- No routines or schedules means no rushing
- Relaxing days
- Getting to do whatever you want
- Work at your own pace on your own projects

MI – Friends make it better.

- Students have friends at school
- Teachers have fun activities for you and your friends
- See each other daily

III. Closing

CI and PT – The first few weeks of school may make you sleepy, and they may be hard to adjust to. But, it helps to know that school friends make it all better. Welcome school year 20__ – 20__!

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 controlling idea or develop one with a similar idea.

I.

Introduction

CI - The end of summer means the end of sleeping in with no schedules to follow. The good news is you get to see your friends more.

Write a topic sentence with the MI.

II. Body

MI - Most people enjoy sleeping in late.

- Stay up until all hours of the night
- Enjoy sleeping in late
- Body gets the rest it needs
- But you can get lazy and be unproductive

Then add sentences with the supporting details.

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

Write a topic sentence with the MI.

MI - There are no routines or schedules.

- No routines or schedules means no rushing
- Relaxing days
- Getting to do whatever you want
- Work at your own pace on your own projects

Then add sentences with the supporting details.

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

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 – Friends make it better.

- Students have friends at school
- Teachers have fun activities for you and your friends
- See each other daily

Use the restated controlling 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 – The first few weeks of school may make you sleepy, and they may be hard to adjust to. But, it helps to know that school friends make it all better.

Welcome school year 20__ – 20__!

Planning Guide

Expository

- I. Introductory paragraph
 - A. Topic and controlling 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 controlling 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 Controlling Idea _____

Main Ideas about the Controlling 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 ____
Controlling Idea ____	1 st Idea ____ E____ CE____ PE____ Other____	2 nd Idea____ E____ CE____ PE____ Other____	3 rd Idea____ E____ CE____ PE____ Other____	Controlling 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.
These ideas make this prompt fun!



Informal Writing Activity Springboard: Distribute post-it notes to each student. Ask students to write one thing they enjoy most during summer time that they don't often do during the school year. Allow students to share their notes. See example below:

