

English I Writing Expository Prompt

Read the following quotation.

"I'm a great believer that any tool that enhances communication has profound effects in terms of how people can learn from each other and how they can achieve the kind of freedoms that they're interested in.

– *Bill Gates*

Business magnate, philanthropist, investor, computer programmer, inventor

Think about communication on our society.

Write an essay explaining how communication has changed over time.

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: Throughout history communication has always existed; however, the way we converse has changed dramatically.

Main Ideas of the Thesis	
First Main Idea	Supporting Details
In the past, communication was slow.	Sending letters
	communicate over long distance
	Morse code
	Telephones were shared
	Personal conversations
Second Main Idea	
In the present, communication is effective and efficient.	Mobile devices
	Internet instant messages
	Example - text messaging
	Because it is so easy, Society does not value communication as much as in the past
	Personal communication suffers
	Example - people are on their phones during dinnertime

Concluding Statement: Communication throughout the years is a reflection of how much our society has evolved. What someone sent two hundred years ago by post, can now be sent in seconds using a click of a button.

I. Introduction

Thesis – Throughout history communication has always existed; however, the way we converse has changed dramatically.

II. Body

MI – In the past, communication was slow.

- Sending letters
- Communicate over long distance
- Morse code
- Telephones were shared
- Personal conversations

MI – In the present, communication is effective and efficient.

- Mobile devices
- Internet instant messages
- Example– text messaging
- Because it is so easy, society does not value communication as much as in the past
- Personal communication suffers
- Example – people are on their phones during dinnertime

III. Closing

Thesis and PT – Communication throughout the years is a reflection of how much our society has evolved. What someone sent two hundred years ago by post, can now be sent in seconds using a click of a button.

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 - Throughout history communication has always existed; however, the way we converse has changed dramatically.

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

II. Body

MI - In the past, communication was slow.

- Sending letters
- Communicate over long distance
- Morse code
- Telephones were shared
- Personal conversations

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

MI - In the present, communication is effective and efficient.

- Mobile devices
- Internet instant messages
- Example- text messaging
- Because it is so easy, society does not value communication as much as in the past
- Personal communication suffers
- Example - people are on their phones during dinnertime

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 - Communication throughout the years is a reflection of how much our society has evolved. What someone sent two hundred years ago by post, can now be sent in seconds using a click of a button.

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____ CE____ PE____ Other____	2 nd Idea____ E____ CE____ PE____ Other____	3 rd 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	

