

Coos Bay Schools Writing Prompts 2012-2013

| Kindergarten | Opinion | Informative/ Explanatory | Narrative |
|--------------|---|--|--|
| | <p>Write about your favorite animal and tell why.</p> <p>What is the best part of recess? Why?</p> <p>I am proud of myself because...</p> | <p>Draw/tell about a family member</p> <p>Tell/draw a picture about your favorite sport or game.</p> <p>Describe in order how you get ready for school each day.</p> | <p>Tell about something you like to do with your family.</p> <p>Describe a time when you got injured. What happened?</p> |

| 1 st -2 nd Grade | Opinion | Informative/ Explanatory | Narrative |
|--|---|--|---|
| | <p>Write about your favorite day of the week and tell why.</p> <p>What is the best part of recess and why?</p> <p>Three reasons I am proud of myself are:</p> | <p>Choose an animal or insect and explain its life cycle.</p> <p>Choose a game and explain how to play it from beginning to end.</p> <p>Think of your favorite sandwich and explain how to make it step by step.</p> | <p>Tell about an activity like to do with your family.</p> <p>What has been your best birthday so far? Explain the day from start to finish.</p> <p>Describe a rainy day when you had a good time inside.</p> |

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| 3rd-5 th Grade | Opinion | Informative/ Explanatory | Narrative |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| | <p>In your opinion, what is the best house pet?</p> <p>Describe your favorite family story</p> <p>What is the best part about living near the ocean?</p> | <p>Think of an invention that you think would make a major improvement to the world's future. Explain your invention and what effects it would have.</p> <p>Think of a person who is one of the most interesting people you have ever met. Explain what this person is like.</p> <p>A rainy day does not have to be bad. Explain how you could turn a rainy day into a good day.</p> | <p>Tell a true story about a time or an event that you would like to remember.</p> <p>Tell a true story about a time you really appreciated getting help from someone. You may have been given advice, given help with a project, been loaned something you needed, or given some other kind of help you appreciated.</p> <p>An "adventure" could be any new experience that had some challenges. Tell a true story about an "adventure" you have had by yourself, with your family, or with a friend.</p> |

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| 6 th - 8 th Grade | Argumentative | Informative/ Explanatory | Narrative |
|---|--|--|--|
| | <p>Create a new Olympic event. Write a paper to convince the Olympics Committee to accept this new event.</p> <p>Good habits improve our physical, and/or emotional. Select one of your good habits and write an essay persuading readers to make that habit a part of their lives</p> <p>Do you think all girl and all boy schools are a good idea? Why or why not? Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.</p> | <p>Explain how disappointments can sometimes have a positive outcome.</p> <p>Explain why it's important to learn how to read.</p> <p>In your opinion what is best invention of all time? Explain why it is so awesome.</p> | <p>Tell us a story about one time when your parents were right.</p> <p>Imagine that you spent the entire day with your favorite relative (grandmother, grandfather, cousin, aunt, uncle, etc.). Tell us about your day.</p> <p>You don't have to spend money to have a good time. Tell a true story about when you had a great time without spending a lot of money.</p> |

Coos Bay Schools Writing Prompts 2012-2013

| High School | Argumentative | Informative/ Explanatory | Narrative |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p>9th -12th</p> | <p>Controversy surrounds the concept of Reality T.V., which has exploded in popularity as a form of entertainment. Take a stand on the merits of reality television programs, or television viewing in general, and convince your readers to agree with you.</p> <p>Some people feel that professional athletes and entertainers make too much money. Do you agree or disagree? Write a letter to the editor or an essay that would convince other people to feel the same way you do about this issue.</p> <p>Your school is considering offering a new class. The New Course Committee wants to choose one that will be useful and interesting to high school students. What new course would you like to see taught? Propose a new class for your school and convince the committee that they should add this class.</p> | <p>People have many admirable character traits, such as courage, enthusiasm, compassion, integrity, friendliness, strength...the list could go on and on. Define a character trait, explain what makes it especially important, and tell how you see it expressed in yourself or others.</p> <p>Think of a successful person. Explain by using specific examples the qualities, characteristics, behaviors, etc., that contribute to that person's success.</p> <p>Someone once said, "When the character of a person is not clear to you, look at his or her friends." Explain how this quote relates to you or someone you know.</p> | <p>Oregon has had some extreme weather in the past few years. Tell a true story about a fun or challenging time you had during bad or extreme weather.</p> <p>Lots of people try to give us advice—parents, friends, brothers or sisters, teachers, etc. Tell a true story about a time you were given or gave advice. Tell if the advice was followed or not and the results.</p> <p>Tell a true story based on one of the following quotations: "Absence makes the heart grow fonder" or "Familiarity breeds contempt" or "Honesty is the best policy.</p> |

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Best Practice:

Consider for next year, developing a district grade level prompt that targets a specific theme or unit based on a content standard for opinion/argumentative and informative/explanatory genres. For example, a 4th grade science standard such as 4.1L.1 Compare and contrast characteristics of fossils and living organisms could be turned into a prompt such as, explain the difference between fossils and living organisms. Another example, a 6th grade social science standard such as 6.17. compare and contrast early forms of government via the study of early civilizations (tribal, monarchy, democracy, theocracy, and oligarchy) in the Western Hemisphere could be turned into a prompt such as, write a paper supporting a form of government.