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8th Grade Writing: Opinion

Make a point and support it!

Prompts

Write a letter of gratitude to someone in your life. Explain why you are grateful for them and what actions they have taken that have improved your life.

Identify an elected official using myreps.datamade.us. Pick an issue in your community you care about. Write a letter to the elected official explaining how and why they should address the issue.

What rights do you believe animals should have? Explain why.

Write about a time you were underestimated. Why do you think that person (or people) had that impression of you? How did it affect you? Did you get motivated by it or did it put you in a slump? Alternatively: Write about a time you underestimated someone and they surprised you. How did this affect your relationship? ([From 916 Ink](#))

Think about the assumptions that have been made about you. This could be based on your race, religion, gender, your outward appearance, or your association with a certain club, sport, or group. Think about all the labels that people might place on you based on assumptions. This prompt allows you to express how you're more than the stereotypes that people box you into. Start your piece with the phrase "I'm more than..." and see where it takes you. ([From 916 Ink](#))

What are the things you're tired of being told? Make a list. Then write a letter explaining why you're tired of being told these things. Begin with the phrase, "I'm tired of being told..." ([From 916 Ink](#))

If you could erase one object or event from the world, what would you choose? Explain why.

What makes a good friend? Is it kindness? Do they make you laugh? Are they there for you when you are feeling down? Write a recipe for friendship. Include all the ingredients (and measurements!) that you'll need and write some clear instructions for how you make a good friend. Explain why these things make a good friend. ([From 916 Ink](#))



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Graphic organizer

Name: _____

Prompt: _____

My opinion

Reason 1

Evidence

Reason 2

Evidence

Reason 3

Evidence

Conclusion: _____



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What to look for

- Introduce a topic clearly.
- State an opinion.
- Acknowledge differing opinions and distinguish your opinion from others.
- Organize ideas, evidence, and reasons that support the opinion logically.
- Use facts and details.
- Use linking words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., consequently, specifically) to show relationships between claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
- Include a conclusion statement or section.
- Use clear and coherent writing.
- Use proper grammar.



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Questions? Please email us at contact@schoolonwheels.org.

Last updated 9/19/19