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8th Grade Writing: Informative

Explain something and use facts!

Prompts

Write a letter to someone who is thinking about becoming a writer. What advice do you have for them? ([From 916 Ink](#))

Write a letter to your thoughts. Which thoughts do you want to have a party with? Which thoughts are troublemakers that you'll be tossing out of the party? ([From 916 Ink](#))

Explain what a lightbulb is to someone from prehistoric times.

List your three greatest strengths. Explain how these became your strengths.

What does independence mean? What skills do people need in order to be independent?

Pick a place in the world that you'd like to travel to. Research some qualities about the place. Write a description of the most important aspects of the place you chose. You might write about the type of food people eat, the climate, the wildlife, or the history of the place.

Write about a time you worked hard for something. Tell what you did and how you felt.

Describe a "turning point" in your life, when you knew things would be different. ([From 916 Ink](#))

Have you ever lived in another city? Identify it and describe it. How is it different from the city you live in now? How is it similar?

Think of a real-life hero. It can be someone you know (e.g. A teacher or mentor), someone you don't know (e.g. a community leader or celebrity), or a type of person (e.g. A firefighter or doctor). Explain what qualities make this person a hero.

Pick a skill that you are really good at (e.g. drawing, cooking, dancing, etc). Write a how-to on your chosen skill.

Choose a place you love and know how to get to. It can be close (e.g. the kitchen), or far (e.g. the beach). Explain how to get to your chosen place.

Write about a Place where you felt you could just be you. The place can be real or imaginary. Either way, describe it in as much detail as you can. Were you there with other people or were you alone? What is it about this place that made you feel at ease? ([from 916 Ink](#))



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Graphic organizer

NAME _____ TOPIC _____ DATE _____

TOPIC SENTENCE	DETAIL 1 EXAMPLE	CONCLUSION SENTENCE
	DETAIL 2 EXAMPLE	
	DETAIL 3 EXAMPLE	

EXPERT WORDS:

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What to look for

- Introduce a topic or thesis statement clearly, preview what will follow in the essay.
- Organize information logically.
- Use strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect
- Use well-chosen facts, definitions, details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.
- Use appropriate and varied transitions to clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts, and create cohesion.
- Use precise language to inform about or explain the topic.
- Include a conclusion statement or section.
- Use clear and coherent writing.
- Use proper grammar.