**Expository Essay Prompts**

<http://www.nyos.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=369313&type=u&pREC_ID=546869>   
  
Expository (informative) writing communicates information to the reader to share knowledge or to convey messages, instructions, and ideas. It involves communicating information at various levels of understanding, such as describing information, explaining or interpreting information, clarifying a process, or evaluating information.   
  
Practice any of these writing prompts at home!   
  
  
1. If you could make changes in your school lunchroom what would they be?   
  
2. Most people like one particular animal more than others. What is your favorite animal? Why is it your favorite?   
  
3. Everyone has days that they will always remember as being very special. Think about a special day that you have had. Write an essay telling why it was so special.   
  
4. Rules are important. What are the most important rules at your school and why are they important?   
  
5. If you could choose any animal for a class pet, what would you choose and why?   
  
6. Explain why it is important to learn to read.   
  
7. If you could change places with another person for a whole day, who would you change places with and why would you choose that person?   
  
8. We are learning all the time. Some of our learning takes place in school and some outside of school. Write about something you have learned recently and how it has affected you.   
  
9. Think of the ideal job for you when you grow up. Now think of reasons why this would be a good job for you. Write an essay to explain why this is your ideal job.   
  
10. Think of a book that you have read and really enjoyed. Write an essay explaining why you really enjoyed that book.   
  
11. Imagine that time travel to the past was possible. Think of where and when you would like to go for a visit. Write an essay telling where and when you would go in the past and explain why you choose to go there.   
  
12. Your cousin is moving to your town. Write a letter explaining why your town is such a wonderful place to live.   
  
13. Imagine that you had no TV, computer, or video games for one week. Think of some activities that you can do instead to keep you busy and out of trouble. Write an essay to explain what you can do to keep occupied in a week of no TV, computer, or video games.   
  
14. We all have a place where we can imagine or go where we want to be alone and relax. Think of your favorite place. Now write an essay explaining why this place is your favorite.   
  
15. Think about your favorite year of school. Explain why it was your favorite year.   
  
16. Friends are important, but everyone has a different opinion of what makes a good friend. Explain what, in your opinion makes a good friend.   
  
17. Some teachers are special. Explain why one particular teacher in your life was so special.   
  
18. If your principal asked you to write your opinion about what needed to be changed in your school what would you write?

**30 Expository Writing Prompts 4th Grade**

<http://journalbuddies.com/prompts-by-grade/expository-writing-4th-grade/>

1. Describe how “changing classes” in middle school with different teachers and classrooms for each class will differ from the way you experience an average school day now.
2. With more students and more classrooms, you may or may not have classes with your friends when you enter middle school.  Explain some things you can do when most of your friends are in classes other than yours.
3. Describe some things that you can do if you don’t like one of your middle school teachers.
4. Define “peer pressure” and explain ways it can be both a positive and negative influence in your life.
5. Using a map or floor plan of your new middle school, describe how you might get around to your classes, lunchroom, lockers, etc.
6. Describe how things will be different for you in middle school when you have a locker to put your things in.  What will you put in your locker?  Will you decorate it in any way?
7. Explain the rules and requirements at your new middle school and where they differ from your current school.
8. Think about the homework you have in the 4th grade and explain how homework might differ in middle school.
9. When you enter middle school, describe some ways that you can go about making new friends.
10. Define the characteristics that make a good friend.
11. Explain several ways that you might handle someone who is trying to bully you.
12. Define what being a good listener means to you, and explain ways you can be a good listener in your new middle school environment.
13. Define the term “time management” and describe ways you can make use of it in middle school.
14. Describe how you believe you have matured in the past year.
15. Mistakes are not all bad if you learn from them.  Think of a mistake you’ve made and explain what lesson you learned from it.
16. Define the term “dress code” and explain why a school might have a dress code.
17. Explain several reasons that a uniform might be more convenient for students than choosing their own clothes.
18. Describe how you would deal with a good friend who is angry with you.
19. Describe the best ways to maintain good grades in middle school.
20. Explain what a “homework buddy” is and why having one could be helpful.
21. Define what it means to work independently and describe ways you think you could work more independently in middle school.
22. Explain why making eye contact as both a listener and a speaker is important.
23. Think of something about middle school that makes you nervous.  Describe how you feel and what you think the experience will be like.
24. Define several qualities that make someone a good leader, and explain how you can work to better embody those principles.
25. Describe several things you would look for in your ideal high school.
26. Explain how middle school will be different from elementary school.  Which aspects are you most excited about?
27. Define what qualities make someone a good student.  Do you consider yourself a good student?  Why or why not?
28. Explain what you would do if a teacher gave you an assignment you didn’t understand.
29. Think of something new you will experience in middle school that you’ve never experienced before.  Describe what you think it will be like.
30. Describe several of the new responsibilities you’ll have when you enter middle school.