

Sample Writing Topics

Choose a topic from the list below. Remember to choose the topic you know the most about. Make your writing piece 1 to 2 pages in length, handwritten.

Expository

1. Think of one thing you know how to make. EXPLAIN very clearly how you make it.
2. Think of something you have done. Maybe it was playing an instrument, having a family outing, babysitting, riding a bike or a horse for the first time, growing some vegetables or flowers, going for a long hike, taking a bus across town, learning to skateboard, playing chess or anything else. EXPLAIN what you did so that the reader can understand *exactly* how you did it.
3. EXPLAIN how you celebrate a favorite holiday, event, or custom. Be sure to use details so that your reader can picture what your favorite time is like.

How to Write an Expository Paper

Expository writing gives information, explains something, clarifies, or defines. The writing teaches, reveals, informs, or amplifies the reader's understanding through a carefully crafted mix of key points and critical support.

Expository Writing:

- Uses facts.
- Has a logical order.
- Has a conclusion.
- Has the voice of the writer.

- Prewriting:
 - Select a Subject – think of something you know enough information about, or know how to do or make.
 - List the Steps – if there are steps involved, list the steps involved in completing your chosen topic.
- Writing the First Draft:
 - Explain it Clearly – explain what you are writing about with details to help the reader imagine it clearly. If explaining how to do something, tell how to carry out your skill from start to finish.
 - Use linking words like *first*, *second*, *next*, and *then* to help readers move from one step to the next.
- Revising:
 - Test it Out – carefully reread your first draft, making sure the directions are clear and complete, or that the information is easy to understand. (For practice writing, if possible, have someone else try to do what you've explained by following your written directions.)
- Editing and Proofreading:
 - Check it Out – Make sure that the revised draft of your writing reads smoothly and is free of errors (spelling, punctuation, etc.).

For more examples of writing: <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?=525>