

FCAT Writing Prompts

TYPE	PROMPT	MAIN IDEA
Narrative	Everyone has been alone at one time or another. Think about a time you were alone at home or someplace else. Tell about a time you were alone so the reader feels that he was there.	Being Alone
Narrative	As the students entered the room, something strange happened. Each student became smaller until they were only 12 inches tall. Now tell about what happened the day you became only 12 inches tall.	12 Inches Tall
Narrative	The teacher comes into the classroom and puts a bag on her desk. Then she goes out of the classroom. The bag on her desk begins to move. Now write a story about the day that the teacher put a bag on her desk, and it started to move. Make the reader feel that he or she is there in the classroom.	The Bag on the Teacher's Desk
Narrative	Everyone has done something that he or she will always remember. Think about a time you did something special that you will always remember. Now write a story about the time you did something special that you will always remember.	Something Special You Will Always Remember
Narrative	Everyone has had a day he or she will never forget. Think about a special day. Now write a story about what happened on your special day.	A Day to Never Forget
Narrative	We have all had vacations away from school. Think about one vacation you had away from school. Write to tell what happened on your vacation from school.	Vacation
Narrative	You pass a door every day. It is always locked. One day you pass the door it is unlocked. You open the door and walk inside. Write to tell what happens when you open the door and walk inside.	The Locked Door
Narrative	A student has been picked to fly aboard the next space shuttle mission. That student is you. Think about what it would be like to fly on a shuttle mission. Write to tell what happened on your trip into outer space.	Student Shuttle Mission
Narrative	We have all lost something, or know someone who has lost something. Before you begin writing, think about a time when you or someone else lost something. Write to tell what happened the time you or someone else lost something.	Something Lost
Narrative	We have all had fun on a school field trip. Think about one field trip you had away from school. Write to tell what happened on your field trip away from school.	School Field Trip
Narrative	Animals sometimes surprise us by doing something smart. Think about a time an animal did something smart. Now write a story about the time an animal did something smart.	Smart Animals
Narrative	Teachers sometimes like to surprise the class. Think about a time your teacher surprised the class. Now write a story about a teacher surprising a class.	Teacher Surprises Class
Narrative	What might happen if a famous person came to visit you? Think about what would happen if a famous person came to visit you. Now write about the time a famous person visited you.	Famous Person Visits

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Narrative	Sometimes it is fun to imagine what the classroom would be like if you were in charge for a day. Think about what would happen in class if you were in charge for a day. Now tell a story about what it would be like if you were in charge for the day.	In Charge of Class for a Day
Narrative	Imagine that you have been visited by a genie. Think about what you would wish for. Now write a story about the time your wishes came true.	Genie Grants You Wishes
Expository	We all have a favorite day of the week. Think about your favorite day of the week. Now write to explain to your reader why this day of the week is your favorite one.	Favorite Day of the Week
Expository	Eating healthy foods is important. Think about why it is important to eat healthy foods. Explain why you should eat healthy foods.	Eating Healthy Foods
Expository	Everyone has a favorite time of the year. Think about the time of year that you like best. Write to explain to your reader why this time of the year is your favorite.	Favorite Time of Year
Expository	Suppose you could have any animal in the world for a classroom pet. Think about what animal you would like to have for a classroom pet. Now write to explain why this animal should be your classroom pet.	Classroom Pet
Expository	Most teenagers have chores. Think about why it is important for teenagers to have chores. Now write to explain why it is important for teenagers to have chores.	Teenager Chores
Expository	Everyone has jobs or chores. These may be things people do because they are asked to do them or because doing the job or chore makes them feel good about themselves. Think about one of your jobs or chores. Now explain why you do your job or chore.	Jobs or Chores
Expository	Most of us have a special place we like to go. Think about a special place where you like to go. Explain why you like to go to that special place.	Special Place
Expository	We have all heard that it is important to be a good reader. Think about why you think it is important to be a good reader. Write to explain why you think it is important to be a good reader.	Good Reader
Expository	We all have a favorite subject to learn about. Think about one subject that is your favorite to learn about in school. Write to explain why that subject is your favorite.	Favorite Subject
Expository	We have all heard that drugs can be bad for you. Think about ways that drugs can be bad for you. Write to explain to a reader how drugs can be bad for you.	Drugs are Bad
Expository	We all have something that is special for us. It could be a person, place, or thing. Think about something that is special for you. Now write to explain why it is special to you.	Something Special
Expository	Everyone has a special way they like to learn. Think about the special way you like to learn. Now write to explain why you like to learn this way.	Special Way You Like to Learn
Expository	Everyone has a special activity they like to do outside. Think about the special activity you like to do outside. Now write to explain what make your activity fun.	Special Activity to do Outside

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Expository	Most of us like something found in nature. Think about something from nature that you like. Now write to explain why you like something from nature.	Like Something Found in Nature
Expository	Everyone has an activity they enjoy. Think about an activity you enjoy. Now write to explain why you enjoy the activity.	Activity they Enjoy
Expository	We all have a special person we like. Think about a person that you like. Now write to explain why you like that person.	Person We Like
Persuasive	The principal of your school has suggested that watching TV causes students' grade to drop. Think about the effect watching TV has on your grades and your friends' grade. Now write to convince your principal whether watching TV causes students' grades to drop.	TV Causes Grades to Drop
Persuasive	The principal of your school does not think that having candy and soda machines in school is a good idea. Think about the reasons why having a candy and soda machine in school is a good idea. Now write to convince your principal whether having candy and soda machines in school is a good idea for the school.	Candy and Soda Machines in School
Persuasive	The principal of your school does not agree with having students work in groups to do all their school work. Think about the reasons why students should work in groups to do all their school work. Now write to convince your principal whether students should work in groups to do all their school work.	Student Work in Groups
Persuasive	Many students spend many hours watching television. Think about the positive and negative effects of watching television. Now write to persuade a newspaper editor whether students waste too much time watching television.	Too Much Time Watching Television
Persuasive	Some students begin thinking about dropping out of school after eighth grade. You have a friend who is thinking about dropping out of school after eighth grade. Before you write, think about why your friend should stay in school. Write to convince your friend to stay in school.	Convince Friend to Stay in School
Persuasive	The school district requires that anyone who participates in an extra curricular activity (in other words a school activity that takes place outside the regular school hours) should not be allowed to participate unless they maintain a 2.0 (C) Grade Point Average. Think about the effects of banning students from participating in extra curricular activities based on their grades. Write to convince your school board to either change this policy or keep it.	Extra Curricular Activity Based on Grades
Persuasive	Homework is part of school and sometimes students have homework on the weekend as well as during the week. Before you begin writing, think about the effects of having homework on the weekend. Now write to convince teachers whether students should have homework on the weekend.	Homework on the Weekend
Persuasive	A local television station is planning to adopt a school. Students from the school will be featured on commercials, news broadcasts, and other shows. Before you begin writing, think about reasons why your school should be chosen. Now write to persuade the manager of the local television station whether they should adopt your school.	Television Station Adopt a School

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Persuasive	The Florida Legislature is discussing the possibility of adding an hour to the school day to improve students' learning. Before you begin writing, think about the effects of adding an hour to the school day. Now write to convince the adult reader of your paper on whether to add an hour to the school day.	Adding an Hour to the School Day
Persuasive	In some schools students wear uniforms. Before you begin writing, think about what is involved when students are required to wear uniforms to school. Now write to persuade a group of principals on whether school uniforms should be required.	School Uniforms
Persuasive	Taking exams is very important for a student's final grade. The teachers at your school have decided to give exams in all subjects on the same day. Before you begin writing, think about the reasons why teachers should not give all the exams on the same day. Now write to convince your teachers whether they should give exams in all subjects on the same day.	Exams in All Subjects on Same Day
Persuasive	A leading doctor has published a research paper which claims that all students should be in bed by 8:00 p.m. in order for them to learn well in school. It is suggested that all televisions should be off and all lights turned out by 8:00 p.m. so that students get a full night's rest. Your parents are considering doing what the doctor suggests. Before you begin writing, think about how you feel about the doctor's research and going to bed by 8:00 p.m. Now write to convince your parents whether they should listen to the doctor's research about sending you to bed by 8:00 p.m. each night.	Going to Bed by 8:00pm Each Night
Persuasive	The local newspaper is offering a prize for the Best Relative of the Year. Before you begin writing, think about one of your relatives whom you would like to nominate for this prize. Now write to convince the judges on why your relative should be chosen as the Best Relative of the Year.	Best Relative of the Year
Persuasive	You have just found what you believe to be a wonderful pet. Before you begin writing, think about why this would be a wonderful pet to you and think about what you will say to your parents about your pet. Now write to persuade your parents on why you should be allowed to get this wonderful pet.	A Wonderful Pet
Persuasive	Think about all the inventions that have been created throughout history. Before you begin writing, think about the invention that you feel has been the most important invention in history. Now write to convince the reader of your paper why this has been the most important invention in history.	Most Important Invention in History
Persuasive	Time capsules are very important for future generations. Before you begin writing, think about one item that you think should be placed in the time capsule. Now write to convince the committee why your item should be included in the time capsule.	Time Capsule Item
Persuasive	The principal of your school is thinking about whether to allow or not allow students to chew gum in school. Think about the effect of having students chew gum in school. Now write to persuade your principal either to allow or not allow students to chew gum in school.	Chewing Gum in School