

DAILY WRITING WARM-UPS

Year-Long Pack (Gr 5–8, 180 Days)

NARRATIVE

INFORMATIONAL

OPINION

POETRY

CREATIVE FICTION

Includes: 180 Prompts | Monthly Overviews | Genre Index | Self-Assessment

UM Printables

Table of Contents

Monthly Overviews

September – June at-a-glance grids

Daily Prompts (Days 1–180)

180 individual warm-up pages with Writer's Tips

Genre-Sorted Index

All prompts organized by writing genre

Student Self-Assessment Checklist

Reflective rubric for daily writing

Editable Version Instructions

How to customize this resource for your classroom

September Overview

Day	Genre	Prompt
1	Narrative	Write about a time you had to be brave on the first day of something new. What happened, and ho...
2	Informational	Explain how to set up an organized study space at home. Include at least five specific tips for...
3	Opinion	Should students be allowed to choose their own seats in class? State your opinion and give thre...
4	Poetry	Write an acrostic poem using the word SCHOOL. Each line should reveal something true about your...
5	Creative Fiction	You open your locker and find a handwritten note that says: 'Meet me at the old oak tree at 3:1...
6	Narrative	Tell the story of a time you and a friend had a misunderstanding. How did it start, and how was...
7	Informational	Describe the water cycle in detail. Explain each stage -- evaporation, condensation, precipitat...
8	Opinion	Is it better to be the oldest, middle, or youngest child in a family? Defend your answer with s...
9	Creative Fiction	A new student joins your class who seems perfectly normal -- until you notice they can read min...
10	Poetry	Write a free verse poem about the sounds you hear on a September morning. Use at least two exam...
11	Informational	Explain the key differences between mammals and reptiles. Include at least three categories of ...
12	Opinion	Should schools ban junk food in the cafeteria? Support your argument with at least three well-d...
13	Narrative	Write about a time you tried something new and failed. What did you learn from the experience, ...
14	Creative Fiction	You discover that your school library has a secret section that only appears after dark. What d...
15	Poetry	Write a haiku (5-7-5 syllables) about autumn leaves. Then write a second haiku about the wind. ...
16	Informational	How do earthquakes happen? Explain the process step by step, including what tectonic plates are...
17	Opinion	Should every student be required to learn a musical instrument? Give your opinion and back it u...
18	Narrative	Describe the most interesting person you have ever met. What made them memorable, and what impr...

October Overview

Day	Genre	Prompt
19	Narrative	Write about a time you were lost. Where were you, what did it feel like, and how did you find y...
20	Informational	Explain why leaves change color in the fall. Include the role of chlorophyll and how temperatur...
21	Opinion	Should schools celebrate Halloween with parties and costumes? Why or why not? Support your posi...
22	Poetry	Write a poem about a haunted house. Use sensory details that appeal to at least three of the fi...
23	Creative Fiction	You carve a jack-o-lantern, and when you place a candle inside, it whispers your name. What doe...
24	Informational	Describe how bats use echolocation to navigate and hunt in the dark. Explain how sound waves he...
25	Narrative	Tell the story of the best surprise you ever received. Build suspense before the big reveal.
26	Opinion	Is it better to read a scary book or watch a scary movie? Defend your choice with specific reas...
27	Creative Fiction	You and your friends enter a corn maze after dark. The paths keep changing, and you hear footst...
28	Poetry	Write a limerick (AABBA rhyme scheme) about a mischievous black cat. Make sure the rhythm is bo...
29	Informational	Explain the history of Halloween. How did it start, and how has it changed from its origins to ...
30	Opinion	Should trick-or-treating have an age limit? State your position and provide at least three supp...
31	Narrative	Describe a fall tradition you share with your family or community. Why is it meaningful to you?
32	Creative Fiction	The old house at the end of the street has been abandoned for years, but tonight every window g...
33	Informational	Explain how spiders spin their webs. Describe the process from start to finish, including the t...
34	Opinion	Are ghost stories good for children, or do they do more harm than good? Argue your position wit...
35	Poetry	Write a poem from the perspective of a falling leaf. What does it see, feel, and think as it dr...
36	Creative Fiction	You receive a mysterious invitation to a costume party. When you arrive, everyone is dressed ex...

November Overview

Day	Genre	Prompt
37	Narrative	Write about a time someone showed you unexpected kindness. How did it affect you, and did it ch...
38	Informational	Explain the history and significance of Thanksgiving. Include at least three key facts about ho...
39	Opinion	Should schools give students the entire week of Thanksgiving off instead of just a few days? Wh...
40	Poetry	Write a gratitude poem listing at least five things you are thankful for. Use vivid imagery to ...
41	Creative Fiction	A talking turkey shows up at your door the day before Thanksgiving and begs you not to celebrat...
42	Informational	Explain how the Pilgrims traveled to America on the Mayflower. Describe the conditions on the s...
43	Narrative	Tell the story of your favorite meal. Who made it, what was the occasion, and what makes it so ...
44	Opinion	Is it more important to be thankful for big things or small things? Support your answer with sp...
45	Creative Fiction	You time-travel back to the first Thanksgiving in 1621. How do the Pilgrims and Wampanoag peopl...
46	Poetry	Write a diamante poem that begins with 'Harvest' and ends with 'Winter.' Use the seven-line for...
47	Informational	Describe how at least three different animals prepare for winter. Include strategies like migra...
48	Opinion	Should people adopt pets from animal shelters instead of buying from breeders? Make your case w...
49	Narrative	Write about a time you had to work really hard to achieve a goal. What kept you motivated when ...
50	Creative Fiction	The weather forecast calls for snow, but instead it starts raining something entirely unexpecte...
51	Informational	Explain what veterans do and why Veterans Day is important. Include specific examples of how ve...
52	Opinion	Should students have to recite the Pledge of Allegiance every morning? Share your opinion and e...
53	Poetry	Write a concrete poem (shape poem) about something related to November. The shape of your poem ...
54	Creative Fiction	Your grandmother's recipe book has a page you have never seen before -- for a potion. What happ...

December Overview

Day	Genre	Prompt
55	Narrative	Write about your favorite holiday memory. Use descriptive language to bring the scene to life f...
56	Informational	Explain how different cultures celebrate winter holidays. Describe at least three traditions fr...
57	Opinion	Should winter break be three weeks long instead of two? Defend your position with specific reas...
58	Poetry	Write a poem about the first snowfall of the year. Use at least two metaphors and two similes t...
59	Creative Fiction	You find an unopened gift with your name on it -- but no one in your family knows who put it th...
60	Narrative	Describe a time you gave someone a gift that made them really happy. What was the gift, and why...
61	Informational	Explain how people in different parts of the world stay warm during winter. Describe at least t...
62	Opinion	Should schools have a dress code for holiday parties? State your opinion and support it with cl...
63	Creative Fiction	You build a snowman that comes to life at midnight. But instead of being friendly, it has a ver...
64	Poetry	Write a cinquain (2 syllables, 4 syllables, 6 syllables, 8 syllables, 2 syllables) about a wint...
65	Narrative	Write about a time you had to wait patiently for something important. How did you handle the wa...
66	Informational	Explain how gingerbread is made, from mixing the dough to decorating the final product. Include...
67	Opinion	Is it better to give gifts or receive them? Argue your position with specific examples from you...
68	Creative Fiction	You hear bells jingling on your roof, but when you go to check, it is not a sleigh. It is somet...
69	Narrative	Describe a time when a holiday tradition went hilariously wrong. How did your family react, and...
70	Informational	Describe how evergreen trees survive the winter while other trees lose their leaves. Explain th...
71	Opinion	Should students have homework over winter break? Defend your position with at least three stron...
72	Narrative	Write about the best meal you have ever shared with family or friends. What was the occasion, a...

January Overview

Day	Genre	Prompt
73	Narrative	Tell the story of a time you kept a New Year's resolution. What motivated you to stick with it,...
74	Informational	Explain how a bill becomes a law in the United States. Describe each step in the process from i...
75	Opinion	Should the school year start in January instead of September? Why or why not? Support your answ...
76	Poetry	Write a poem about a fresh snowfall that uses personification. Give the snow a personality and ...
77	Creative Fiction	You write your goals for the new year on a piece of paper, and the next day, they have all come...
78	Narrative	Write about a time you had to stand up for what was right, even though it was difficult. What h...
79	Informational	Explain the water purification process. How does water go from a natural source like a river to...
80	Opinion	Are professional athletes paid too much? State your opinion and support it with evidence and lo...
81	Creative Fiction	You discover that your reflection in the mirror has a mind of its own. It starts doing things d...
82	Poetry	Write a poem using the structure of the months of the year, giving each month one descriptive l...
83	Informational	Describe the role of the Supreme Court. What powers does it have, and how do its decisions affe...
84	Opinion	Should schools require community service for graduation? Defend your position with specific exa...
85	Narrative	Tell the story of a time you learned something important from a younger child. What did they te...
86	Creative Fiction	A mysterious door appears in the back of your classroom that no one else seems to notice. What ...
87	Poetry	Write a couplet poem (pairs of rhyming lines) of at least four stanzas about winter sports or a...
88	Informational	Explain how the human heart works. Describe its main parts and how they function together to pu...
89	Opinion	Should students be allowed to grade their own work? Why or why not? Provide at least three reas...
90	Narrative	Write about your favorite indoor activity on a freezing cold day. What makes it so enjoyable, a...

February Overview

Day	Genre	Prompt
91	Narrative	Write about a time you felt truly appreciated. What happened, and how did that feeling affect y...
92	Informational	Explain the history of Valentine's Day. How did it start, and how has it changed from its origi...
93	Opinion	Should schools celebrate Valentine's Day, or does it leave some students feeling left out? Argu...
94	Poetry	Write a rhyming poem about friendship. Include at least two specific metaphors comparing friend...
95	Creative Fiction	You receive a Valentine's Day card from a secret admirer, but the message inside is written in ...
96	Narrative	Tell the story of a time you forgave someone. Was it easy or hard, and what did you learn from ...
97	Informational	Explain how the human respiratory system works. Describe the path air takes from your nose to y...
98	Opinion	Is it better to have a few close friends or a large group of casual friends? Defend your choice...
99	Creative Fiction	You find a box of antique love letters in your attic. When you read the last one, you realize i...
100	Poetry	Write a poem in the form of a letter to your future self. What do you hope, wonder, or want to ...
101	Informational	Explain the process of photosynthesis. How do plants convert sunlight into energy, and why is t...
102	Opinion	Should students have a say in what the school cafeteria serves? Support your argument with logi...
103	Narrative	Write about a time you had to make a difficult choice. What were the options, how did you decid...
104	Creative Fiction	Every time you blink, the world shifts slightly -- colors change, objects move, people look dif...
105	Poetry	Write a shape poem about a heart. The words of your poem should form the shape of a heart on th...
106	Informational	Explain how a seed grows into a plant. Describe the stages from planting to blooming, including...
107	Opinion	Should homework be abolished? State your position and give three well-developed reasons to supp...
108	Narrative	Describe a time you surprised yourself with your own courage or bravery. What did you do, and w...

March Overview

Day	Genre	Prompt
109	Informational	Explain the history of St. Patrick's Day. How did it originate, and why do people celebrate it ...
110	Opinion	Should schools have a longer spring break? Why or why not? Support your position with specific ...
111	Creative Fiction	You follow a rainbow to its end, but instead of a pot of gold, you find something much more val...
112	Poetry	Write a limerick about a lucky charm. Make it humorous and ensure the AABBA rhyme scheme is per...
113	Narrative	Write about a time you tried to fix a mistake. Did your solution work, or did you make things w...
114	Informational	Describe the life cycle of a frog, from egg to adult. Include the key physical changes that hap...
115	Opinion	Is luck a real thing, or is success only the result of hard work? Argue your viewpoint with spe...
116	Creative Fiction	You wake up with the ability to talk to animals, but only the ones in your own backyard. What d...
117	Narrative	Tell the story of a time you helped a classmate who was struggling. What did you do, and how di...
118	Informational	Explain how wind energy works. Describe how wind turbines generate electricity for homes and bu...
119	Opinion	Should students be required to learn cursive writing? State your opinion and back it up with at...
120	Narrative	Write about a time you had to be a leader. What was the situation, and how did you handle the r...
121	Creative Fiction	You are reading a book when the main character suddenly looks up from the page and speaks direc...
122	Informational	Explain how tornadoes form. Describe the atmospheric conditions needed and the steps in the for...
123	Opinion	Should students be allowed to choose all of their own reading books for class, or should the te...
124	Narrative	Write about a time you changed your mind about something important. What caused you to see thin...
125	Poetry	Write a poem about spring rain that uses both onomatopoeia and at least one metaphor comparing ...
126	Narrative	Tell the story of a time you got caught in a sudden rainstorm. What did you do, and how did it ...

April Overview

Day	Genre	Prompt
127	Informational	Explain how recycling works. Choose one material -- plastic, paper, or glass -- and describe th...
128	Opinion	Should single-use plastic bags be banned in all stores? State your opinion and support it with ...
129	Creative Fiction	You plant a mysterious seed you found in the woods. The next morning, it has grown into a tree ...
130	Narrative	Write about a memorable experience you had in nature. What did you see, hear, and feel, and why...
131	Poetry	Write a nature poem for Earth Day that celebrates one specific ecosystem, like a forest, a cora...
132	Informational	Describe the life cycle of a butterfly from egg to adult. Explain the process of metamorphosis ...
133	Opinion	Is it important to protect endangered species even if it costs money and jobs? Argue your posit...
134	Narrative	Tell the story of a time you made a mistake in front of others. How did you handle it, and what...
135	Creative Fiction	Earth is visited by friendly aliens who want to learn about one human invention. You are chosen...
136	Poetry	Write a haiku (5-7-5 syllables) about a blooming flower. Then write a second haiku about a bee ...
137	Informational	Explain how bees make honey. Describe the roles of different bees in the hive and the process f...
138	Opinion	Should schools switch to a four-day school week with longer days? Why or why not? Support your ...
139	Narrative	Describe your favorite place in nature. What makes it special, and how do you feel when you are...
140	Creative Fiction	You discover that you can breathe underwater. You dive into a lake and find a hidden underwater...
141	Informational	Explain the importance of the Amazon Rainforest to the planet. Describe its role in producing o...
142	Opinion	Should middle school students have recess? Argue your position with specific reasons and exampl...
143	Narrative	Write about a time you worked as part of a team. What was the goal, what role did you play, and...
144	Poetry	Write a free verse poem about the feeling of a warm spring day after a long winter. Focus on th...

May Overview

Day	Genre	Prompt
145	Narrative	Write about a time you felt proud of a friend. What did they accomplish, and how did you suppor...
146	Informational	Explain how the internet works. Describe the journey a piece of data takes from a server to you...
147	Opinion	Should schools require students to wear uniforms? State your position and defend it with at lea...
148	Creative Fiction	A time capsule from 50 years ago is opened at your school, and you are the first to look inside...
149	Poetry	Write a poem about growing up. Use an extended metaphor that compares growing up to something e...
150	Informational	Describe the job of the President of the United States. What are the main duties, powers, and l...
151	Opinion	Is it better to be famous or to be unknown? Defend your choice with specific reasons and exampl...
152	Narrative	Tell the story of a time you learned a lesson from nature. What happened, and how has that less...
153	Creative Fiction	You wake up to find that your house is floating in the sky. Looking out the window, you see oth...
154	Poetry	Write a limerick about a mischievous garden gnome who comes to life at night. Ensure the AABBA ...
155	Informational	Explain how volcanoes erupt. Describe what happens beneath the Earth's crust to cause an erupti...
156	Opinion	Should physical education be graded on effort or on skill? State your opinion and support it wi...
157	Narrative	Write about the most interesting field trip you have ever taken. Where did you go, what did you...
158	Creative Fiction	You find a map tucked into an old library book that leads to a hidden room in your school. What...
159	Informational	Explain the importance of Memorial Day. Describe its origins and how it is observed in the Unit...
160	Opinion	Should children have set bedtimes, or should they be allowed to stay up as late as they want? D...
161	Narrative	Write about a time you had to keep a secret. Was it difficult, and what happened when the secre...
162	Poetry	Write an acrostic poem using the word S-P-R-I-N-G. Each line should describe a different sign t...

June Overview

Day	Genre	Prompt
163	Narrative	Write about your favorite summer memory. What made it so special, and do you think you could re...
164	Informational	Explain how ocean tides work. Describe the role of the moon's gravity and the sun in creating h...
165	Opinion	Should students be required to read during summer break? Why or why not? Support your position ...
166	Creative Fiction	You arrive at a summer camp that seems normal at first, but by the second day, you realize the ...
167	Poetry	Write a poem about the sound of the ocean. Use onomatopoeia and varying line lengths to mimic t...
168	Informational	Explain how sunscreen protects your skin. Describe the difference between UVA and UVB rays and ...
169	Opinion	Is it better to spend summer vacation at the beach or in the mountains? Argue your preference w...
170	Narrative	Tell the story of a time you tried something new and loved it. What was it, and how did it chan...
171	Creative Fiction	A seagull drops a mysterious, glowing key at your feet on the beach. When you pick it up, you h...
172	Poetry	Write a concrete poem (shape poem) in the shape of the sun. The words of your poem should form ...
173	Informational	Describe how ice cream is made commercially. Explain the process from mixing the ingredients to...
174	Opinion	Should the school year be longer, or is the current length just right? State your opinion and s...
175	Narrative	Write about a time you had an adventure in your own neighborhood. What made an ordinary place f...
176	Creative Fiction	You build an elaborate sandcastle, and when the tide comes in, it does not wash away -- it grow...
177	Informational	Explain the importance of pollinators like bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Describe how th...
178	Opinion	Should kids have chores during the summer, or should summer be a complete break from responsibi...
179	Narrative	Reflect on the most important thing you learned this school year -- not a subject, but a life l...
180	Poetry	Write a celebratory poem marking the end of the school year and the beginning of summer. Use vi...

Write about a time you had to be brave on the first day of something new. What happened, and how did you feel afterward?

Writer's Tip: Start with a hook -- drop the reader right into the moment.

Explain how to set up an organized study space at home. Include at least five specific tips for staying focused and productive.

Writer's Tip: Use transition words like 'first,' 'next,' and 'finally' to organize your steps clearly.

Should students be allowed to choose their own seats in class? State your opinion and give three strong reasons to support it.

Writer's Tip: Make your position clear in the very first sentence.

Write an acrostic poem using the word SCHOOL. Each line should reveal something true about your school experience.

Writer's Tip: Go beyond single words -- each line can be a short phrase or sentence.

You open your locker and find a handwritten note that says: 'Meet me at the old oak tree at 3:15. Come alone.' What happens next?

Writer's Tip: Build suspense by describing what your character sees, hears, and feels on the way.

Tell the story of a time you and a friend had a misunderstanding. How did it start, and how was it resolved?

Writer's Tip: Use dialogue to show both sides of the misunderstanding.

Describe the water cycle in detail. Explain each stage -- evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection -- using specific examples.

Writer's Tip: Sequence words help readers follow a process from start to finish.

Is it better to be the oldest, middle, or youngest child in a family?
Defend your answer with specific examples and reasoning.

Writer's Tip: Acknowledge the other positions -- then explain why yours is strongest.

A new student joins your class who seems perfectly normal -- until you notice they can read minds. Write what happens when you discover this.

Writer's Tip: Give your mind-reading character a personality -- are they mischievous, nervous, or something else?

Write a free verse poem about the sounds you hear on a September morning. Use at least two examples of onomatopoeia.

Writer's Tip: Onomatopoeia are sound words -- buzz, rustle, chirp, drip. Let your reader hear the morning.

Explain the key differences between mammals and reptiles. Include at least three categories of comparison with specific examples.

Writer's Tip: A compare-and-contrast structure works best -- try point-by-point organization.

Should schools ban junk food in the cafeteria? Support your argument with at least three well-developed reasons.

Writer's Tip: Strong arguments include facts, examples, or personal experience -- not just feelings.

Write a nature poem for Earth Day that celebrates one specific ecosystem, like a forest, a coral reef, or a desert. Include at least three sensory details.

Writer's Tip: *Specificity is key -- name actual plants, animals, and sounds rather than making generic statements about nature.*

Describe the life cycle of a butterfly from egg to adult. Explain the process of metamorphosis and what happens inside the chrysalis.

Writer's Tip: Use chronological order and transition words to guide the reader through each stage of transformation.

Genre-Sorted Index

NARRATIVE

Day 1: Write about a time you had to be brave on the first day of something new. What happened, and how did you feel afterward?

Day 6: Tell the story of a time you and a friend had a misunderstanding. How did it start, and how was it resolved?

Day 13: Write about a time you tried something new and failed. What did you learn from the experience, and would you try again?

Day 18: Describe the most interesting person you have ever met. What made them memorable, and what impression did they leave on you?

Day 19: Write about a time you were lost. Where were you, what did it feel like, and how did you find your way?

Day 25: Tell the story of the best surprise you ever received. Build suspense before the big reveal.

Day 31: Describe a fall tradition you share with your family or community. Why is it meaningful to you?

Day 37: Write about a time someone showed you unexpected kindness. How did it affect you, and did it change how you treat others?

Day 43: Tell the story of your favorite meal. Who made it, what was the occasion, and what makes it so special to you?

Day 49: Write about a time you had to work really hard to achieve a goal. What kept you motivated when things got difficult?

Day 55: Write about your favorite holiday memory. Use descriptive language to bring the scene to life for your reader.

Day 60: Describe a time you gave someone a gift that made them really happy. What was the gift, and why did it matter so much?

Day 65: Write about a time you had to wait patiently for something important. How did you handle the waiting, and was it worth it in the end?

Day 69: Describe a time when a holiday tradition went hilariously wrong. How did your family react, and do you laugh about it now?

Day 72: Write about the best meal you have ever shared with family or friends. What was the occasion, and what made it so memorable?

Day 73: Tell the story of a time you kept a New Year's resolution. What motivated you to stick with it, and what was the result?

Day 78: Write about a time you had to stand up for what was right, even though it was difficult. What happened, and what did you learn?

Day 85: Tell the story of a time you learned something important from a younger child. What did they teach you, and how did it change your perspective?

Day 90: Write about your favorite indoor activity on a freezing cold day. What makes it so enjoyable, and who do you share it with?

Day 91: Write about a time you felt truly appreciated. What happened, and how did that feeling affect your actions afterward?

Day 96: Tell the story of a time you forgave someone. Was it easy or hard, and what did you learn from the experience?

Day 103: Write about a time you had to make a difficult choice. What were the options, how did you decide, and do you still think you made the right choice?

Day 108: Describe a time you surprised yourself with your own courage or bravery. What did you do, and what did you learn about yourself?

Day 113: Write about a time you tried to fix a mistake. Did your solution work, or did you make things worse before they got better?

Day 117: Tell the story of a time you helped a classmate who was struggling. What did you do, and how did it affect your relationship?

Day 120: Write about a time you had to be a leader. What was the situation, and how did you handle the responsibility?

Day 124: Write about a time you changed your mind about something important. What caused you to see things differently?

Day 126: Tell the story of a time you got caught in a sudden rainstorm. What did you do, and how did it make you feel?

Day 130: Write about a memorable experience you had in nature. What did you see, hear, and feel, and why has it stayed with you?

Day 134: Tell the story of a time you made a mistake in front of others. How did you handle it, and what did you learn about yourself?

Day 139: Describe your favorite place in nature. What makes it special, and how do you feel when you are there?

Day 143: Write about a time you worked as part of a team. What was the goal, what role did you play, and what was the outcome?

Day 145: Write about a time you felt proud of a friend. What did they accomplish, and how did you support them?

Day 152: Tell the story of a time you learned a lesson from nature. What happened, and how has that lesson stayed with you?

Day 157: Write about the most interesting field trip you have ever taken. Where did you go, what did you see, and what made it memorable?

Day 161: Write about a time you had to keep a secret. Was it difficult, and what happened when the secret was finally revealed?

Day 163: Write about your favorite summer memory. What made it so special, and do you think you could recreate that experience today?

Day 170: Tell the story of a time you tried something new and loved it. What was it, and how did it change your routine?

Day 175: Write about a time you had an adventure in your own neighborhood. What made an ordinary place feel extraordinary?

Day 179: Reflect on the most important thing you learned this school year -- not a subject, but a life lesson. How did you learn it?

INFORMATIONAL

Day 2: Explain how to set up an organized study space at home. Include at least five specific tips for staying focused and productive.

Day 7: Describe the water cycle in detail. Explain each stage -- evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection -- using specific examples.

Day 11: Explain the key differences between mammals and reptiles. Include at least three categories of comparison with specific examples.

Day 16: How do earthquakes happen? Explain the process step by step, including what tectonic plates are and how they move.

Day 20: Explain why leaves change color in the fall. Include the role of chlorophyll and how temperature and daylight affect the process.

Day 24: Describe how bats use echolocation to navigate and hunt in the dark. Explain how sound waves help them 'see' their surroundings.

Day 29: Explain the history of Halloween. How did it start, and how has it changed from its origins to the holiday we know today?

Day 33: Explain how spiders spin their webs. Describe the process from start to finish, including the types of silk they produce.

Day 38: Explain the history and significance of Thanksgiving. Include at least three key facts about how the holiday began and evolved.

Day 42: Explain how the Pilgrims traveled to America on the Mayflower. Describe the conditions on the ship and the challenges they faced.

Day 47: Describe how at least three different animals prepare for winter. Include strategies like migration, hibernation, and adaptation.

Day 51: Explain what veterans do and why Veterans Day is important. Include specific examples of how veterans have served their country.

Day 56: Explain how different cultures celebrate winter holidays. Describe at least three traditions from around the world.

Day 61: Explain how people in different parts of the world stay warm during winter. Describe at least three strategies or technologies used in cold climates.

Day 66: Explain how gingerbread is made, from mixing the dough to decorating the final product. Include at least three important steps in the process.

Day 70: Describe how evergreen trees survive the winter while other trees lose their leaves. Explain the science behind this adaptation.

Day 74: Explain how a bill becomes a law in the United States. Describe each step in the process from idea to enactment.

Day 79: Explain the water purification process. How does water go from a natural source like a river to the clean water that comes out of your faucet?

Day 83: Describe the role of the Supreme Court. What powers does it have, and how do its decisions affect everyday citizens?

Day 88: Explain how the human heart works. Describe its main parts and how they function together to pump blood through the body.

Day 92: Explain the history of Valentine's Day. How did it start, and how has it changed from its origins to the holiday we know today?

Day 97: Explain how the human respiratory system works. Describe the path air takes from your nose to your lungs and back out again.

Day 101: Explain the process of photosynthesis. How do plants convert sunlight into energy, and why is this process important for life on Earth?

Day 106: Explain how a seed grows into a plant. Describe the stages from planting to blooming, including what the seed needs at each stage.

Day 109: Explain the history of St. Patrick's Day. How did it originate, and why do people celebrate it today?

Day 114: Describe the life cycle of a frog, from egg to adult. Include the key physical changes that happen at each stage.

Day 118: Explain how wind energy works. Describe how wind turbines generate electricity for homes and businesses.

Day 122: Explain how tornadoes form. Describe the atmospheric conditions needed and the steps in the formation process from a supercell to a funnel cloud.

Day 127: Explain how recycling works. Choose one material -- plastic, paper, or glass -- and describe the steps from your bin to a new product.

Day 132: Describe the life cycle of a butterfly from egg to adult. Explain the process of metamorphosis and what happens inside the chrysalis.

Day 137: Explain how bees make honey. Describe the roles of different bees in the hive and the process from nectar collection to honeycomb storage.

Day 141: Explain the importance of the Amazon Rainforest to the planet. Describe its role in producing oxygen, storing carbon, and supporting biodiversity.

Day 146: Explain how the internet works. Describe the journey a piece of data takes from a server to your device, using simple terms.

Day 150: Describe the job of the President of the United States. What are the main duties, powers, and limitations of the office?

Day 155: Explain how volcanoes erupt. Describe what happens beneath the Earth's crust to cause an eruption and the different types of volcanic eruptions.

Day 159: Explain the importance of Memorial Day. Describe its origins and how it is observed in the United States today.

Day 164: Explain how ocean tides work. Describe the role of the moon's gravity and the sun in creating high and low tides.

Day 168: Explain how sunscreen protects your skin. Describe the difference between UVA and UVB rays and how SPF works.

Day 173: Describe how ice cream is made commercially. Explain the process from mixing the ingredients to packaging the final product.

Day 177: Explain the importance of pollinators like bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Describe how they help plants reproduce and why their decline is concerning.

OPINION

Day 3: Should students be allowed to choose their own seats in class? State your opinion and give three strong reasons to support it.

Day 8: Is it better to be the oldest, middle, or youngest child in a family? Defend your answer with specific examples and reasoning.

Day 12: Should schools ban junk food in the cafeteria? Support your argument with at least three well-developed reasons.

Day 17: Should every student be required to learn a musical instrument? Give your opinion and back it up with at least two pieces of evidence.

Day 21: Should schools celebrate Halloween with parties and costumes? Why or why not? Support your position with clear reasoning.

Day 26: Is it better to read a scary book or watch a scary movie? Defend your choice with specific reasons and examples.

Day 30: Should trick-or-treating have an age limit? State your position and provide at least three supporting reasons.

Day 34: Are ghost stories good for children, or do they do more harm than good? Argue your position with specific evidence.

Day 39: Should schools give students the entire week of Thanksgiving off instead of just a few days? Why or why not?

Day 44: Is it more important to be thankful for big things or small things? Support your answer with specific examples from your life.

Day 48: Should people adopt pets from animal shelters instead of buying from breeders? Make your case with clear reasoning.

Day 52: Should students have to recite the Pledge of Allegiance every morning? Share your opinion and explain your reasoning.

Day 57: Should winter break be three weeks long instead of two? Defend your position with specific reasons and examples.

Day 62: Should schools have a dress code for holiday parties? State your opinion and support it with clear reasoning and examples.

Day 67: Is it better to give gifts or receive them? Argue your position with specific examples from your own experience.

Day 71: Should students have homework over winter break? Defend your position with at least three strong reasons.

Day 75: Should the school year start in January instead of September? Why or why not? Support your answer with logical reasoning.

Day 80: Are professional athletes paid too much? State your opinion and support it with evidence and logical reasoning.

Day 84: Should schools require community service for graduation? Defend your position with specific examples and reasoning.

Day 89: Should students be allowed to grade their own work? Why or why not? Provide at least three reasons for your position.

Day 93: Should schools celebrate Valentine's Day, or does it leave some students feeling left out? Argue your position with clear reasoning.

Day 98: Is it better to have a few close friends or a large group of casual friends? Defend your choice with specific reasons and examples.

Student Self-Assessment Checklist

Use this checklist to reflect on your writing after each warm-up or at the end of the week. Check the boxes that apply to your work.

Ideas & Content

- ☐ I responded directly to the prompt.
- ☐ I included interesting and relevant details.
- ☐ I stayed focused on the main idea throughout my writing.

Organization

- ☐ My writing has a clear beginning, middle, and end.
- ☐ I used transition words to connect my ideas smoothly.
- ☐ My ideas flow in a logical order.

Voice & Tone

- ☐ My writing sounds like me.
- ☐ I adjusted my tone to fit the genre (e.g., formal for informational, expressive for narrative).
- ☐ My writing shows enthusiasm and engagement with the topic.

Word Choice

- ☐ I used strong, specific verbs instead of generic ones.
- ☐ I included descriptive adjectives and vivid language.
- ☐ I avoided repetitive words and overused phrases.

Sentence Fluency

- ☐ My sentences vary in length and structure.
- ☐ My writing is smooth and easy to read aloud.
- ☐ I avoided run-on sentences and fragments.

Conventions

- ☐ I used correct spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.
- ☐ I proofread my work for errors before submitting.
- ☐ My grammar is correct and does not distract the reader.

Genre Requirements

- ☐ I followed the specific rules of the assigned genre.
- ☐ I included the required elements (e.g., rhyme in poetry, evidence in opinion).
- ☐ I pushed myself creatively within the genre's structure.

Editable Version Instructions

This resource includes an editable Google Slides version, allowing you to customize prompts for seasonal events, class-specific topics, or student interests.

Step 1: Access the Google Slides

Click the provided link to make a copy of the Google Slides presentation to your Google Drive.

Step 2: Edit the Text

Click on any prompt text box to modify the writing prompt. You can also edit the Writer's Tips or Genre labels to fit your needs.

Step 3: Swap Seasonal Topics

Use the editable format to swap in class-specific topics, such as replacing a generic nature prompt with a prompt about your local ecosystem or current class novel.

Step 4: Present to Students

Display the daily slide on your projector or smartboard. Students can write in notebooks, on the provided digital slides, or on printed response sheets.

Note: *The PDF version included in this download is print-ready and preserves the original fonts and formatting. Use the Google Slides version for digital or customized assignments.*

Thank You!

Your support means the world to me. If you and your students enjoyed this resource, I would greatly appreciate it if you would take a moment to leave a review on Teachers Pay Teachers.

Your feedback not only helps me improve, but it also helps other educators find quality resources for their classrooms.



Happy Writing!

UM Printables