

Florida Writes Prompts for Middle Grades

Background Information:

Students in middle schools need to prepare for the Florida Writes Exam in 8th grade which assesses their writing skills in expository and persuasive styles. The following writing prompts can be used to enhance the curriculum as well as assist teachers in assessing writing skills across the curriculum.

Common Core Standards:

<http://www.fldoe.org/schools/ccc.asp>

<http://www.corestandards.org/>

The following writing prompts can be used with any or all sections of the curriculum.

EXPOSITORY:

1)

-In Middle School, students begin to think about different career options.

-Think about the career of an architect.

-Write to explain why the job of architect is a productive and beneficial career for our society.

2)

-You have learned how mathematics is part of our everyday life.

- Think about how you use math in different aspects of your life.

- Write to explain how math is an important concept in your community. Use ideas from the following website to support your essay:

www.learningfrommiami.org

3)

-There are many architectural styles in our local community.

- Think about the architectural styles you studied through the website:

www.learningfrommiami.org

-Write to explain which one is your favorite architectural style that represents your community.

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- Palimpsest is a term that emphasizes that history cannot be erased. The past is still present and we can look for traces of our past in historical structures.

- Think about your definition of Palimpsest.

- Write to explain your definition of this term and provide examples of this concept by referring to facts and details from the following website: www.learningfrommiami.org.

Persuasive:

1)

- After learning about architects, think about the many interesting duties of an architect.

- Think about why architects are needed in our society.

- Write to persuade middle school students consider a career in architecture.

2)

- Preserving evidence of our history is important for future generations to admire and learn from.

- Pretend a historical building that only has 2- floors and houses 10 families in your neighborhood is scheduled to be demolished and replaced with a high-rise condominium that promises to house over 300 needy residents.

- Write to convince city officials in your area to preserve the historical building.

3)

- History plays an important role in architecture.

- Research the duties of a historian.

- Write to convince a person who only believes in modern contemporary structures to value historical structures from a historian's perspective.

References:

<http://www.fldoe.org/schools/ccc.asp>

<http://www.corestandards.org/>

www.learningfrommiami.org