

9 A

#1: Write a narrative essay about overcoming a challenge, and what you learned as a result.

#2: Write an informative essay on a Greek mythical character. Your essay will use research to summarize the plot of the myth and explain the mythical character's cultural significance.

#3: Write an argument for or against the idea of using controlled fires to protect wild areas.

#4: Write an argumentative editorial that argues for or against young people's ability to initiate positive change in their communities.

9 B

#1: Write an informative essay explaining the different kinds of sacrifices people make, the value in making sacrifices, and how to determine when to make a sacrifice.

#2: Write an essay that analyzes one work of literature that you have read from the perspective of a quotation. In your essay, interpret the quotation and explain whether it applies to a work of literature you have read. Support your opinion using literary terms and elements as well as details from the text.

Lens Quotation: "Character is what you are in the dark." -Dwight Lyman Moody

#3: Write a compare-and-contrast analysis to compare the way two texts present similar ideas.

#4: Write an argumentative essay about whether you think technology and the Internet have brought young people closer together. Use evidence from research to support your position.

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Lesson Name: Writing: Descriptive Essay: Favorite Villain

Full Prompt

"The more successful the villain, the more successful the picture."- Alfred Hitchcock

In the world of film and literature, villains have been used to show the opposite of the hero. Where the hero is strong and makes honorable decisions, the villain is usually self-centered and uses evil to damage the lives of others for his own purposes. Villains sometimes fill us with fear, anger and occasionally sadness. In general, every great tale of a hero also has a villain that we love to hate. Think of your favorite villain from either literature or film. How is he/she an opposite figure to a hero? What character traits make him/her such a great villain? In a detailed essay, describe your favorite villain and his/her villainous traits. Compare the villain's traits to the hero's traits to support your description

Lesson Name: Writing: Persuasive Essay: Our Changing Society

Full Prompt

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single minute before starting to improve the world."

--Anne Frank

While society is currently undergoing many rapid changes, people disagree about their direction. Has the world, in fact, changed for the better or worse?

Write a multi-paragraph essay supporting your position on this issue. Be sure to include specific details and examples from your own experiences or readings.

Lesson Name: Writing: Definition Essay: What Is an American?

Full Prompt

Many authors, especially African-American writers such as Alex Haley and Langston Hughes, have used their works to discuss what it truly means to be an American during their lifetimes. Think about this issue and what it means in your own life. In a multi-paragraph essay using details from your own life experiences, explain what you feel makes a person an American.

Lesson Name: Writing: Personal Narrative: Real Courage

Full Prompt

Real Courage

Courage often enables people to face danger, fear, or change. Think of a time when you did something that took real courage. You might have taken a risk, stood up for something you believed was right, or did something that others thought you couldn't.

Write a narrative describing the event. Tell what happened and how the experience affected you.

10 B

Lesson Name: Writing: Research Paper: An American President

Full Prompt

The United States of America has had 44 presidents, all with various strengths and weaknesses. In a multi-paragraph essay, explain who you think was the best American president and why. Make sure to include specific examples and details to support your argument and why

Lesson Name: Writing: Literary Analysis Essay: Theme

Full Prompt

Theme in Literature

A theme is the main message a reader can learn about life or human nature from a literary piece. From a story you have read in class, identify a theme that the reader may learn from the story. In a well-organized essay, describe this theme. Use textual examples from the story to support your ideas and explain how they support the theme.

Lesson Name: Writing: Compare-and-Contrast Essay: *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*

Full Prompt

The Speeches in Julius Caesar

After the death of Julius Caesar, both Brutus and Marc Anthony spoke to the public. In a well-developed essay, compare and contrast the two speeches, explaining the outcome of the speeches and relating them to the eventual outcome of the entire play.

Lesson Name: Writing: Expository Essay: Healthy Relationships

Full Prompt

Healthy Relationships

We experience many types of relationships with our family and friends during our lifetimes. Some of these relationships survive over the years, while others deteriorate. What qualities are important to learn and develop in order to sustain healthy, lasting relationships?

In a well-developed essay, discuss those qualities that you feel contribute to a healthy relationship. Support your answer with specific details or examples from your own experience or reading.

Lesson Name: Writing Workshop: Narrative Writing

Full Prompt

You and nine peers have been selected to apply for an important college scholarship. Only one student will be awarded the scholarship. You have been asked to write a brief essay to the scholarship committee in which you share an important event in your life that significantly changed you, your view about life, your life goals, and your character for the better. Apply narrative techniques, a solid prewriting strategy, and creative sentence patterns to share your story and stand apart from other applicants.

Lesson Name: Informative Writing Workshop: Compare-Contrast Essay

Full Prompt

Imagine that you have been asked by your school counselor to choose a college recruiting poster to hang in your school. Consider the two posters carefully, noting how they are both similar and different. [Click here to view the picture.](#) Pay special attention to how the words and images are used to convey the marketing messages. Which poster would you choose to hang in your school? Why does the poster you chose appeal more effectively to students in your age group? Be sure to support your choice with specific references to the words, images, and layouts of the posters.

Lesson Name: Writing Workshop: Effective Professional Communication

Full Prompt

Recently an influential auto safety group has called for states to increase the legal driving age from sixteen to seventeen or even eighteen in order to decrease teen traffic accidents and fatalities. In response to the auto safety group, your state government has crafted a bill to increase the driving age in your state to eighteen. Write a carefully worded email to persuade your state senator or state representative to either pass or turn down this bill.

Lesson Name: Writing Workshop: Literary Analysis

Full Prompt

Every work of literature leads up to one great moment of insight, one instant in which the truth stands revealed.

- T. Melos

Write a multi-paragraph essay in which you analyze one or more literary texts that you have read from the perspective of the critical lens. Be sure to interpret the statement with regards to the literature, as well as agree or disagree with the statement as you have interpreted it. Support your position with specific details and references to literary devices (theme, characterization, setting, point of view) as found in the literature you have selected.

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Lesson Name: Writing Workshop: Exploring Argument

Full Prompt

Your school is considering adopting a policy that requires all students to complete 100

hours of community service during their high school careers in order to graduate. The district has asked for student input at the next school board meeting as to whether or not they should adopt this policy. Research the topic, decide whether you are in favor of or against the new policy, and write a five-paragraph persuasive speech that you will deliver to the school board members and your principal.

Lesson Name: Writing Workshop: Argumentative Essay

Full Prompt

With advancements in technology, some students have chosen to complete their schoolwork through the Internet, rather than in traditional classrooms. Those who support a traditional classroom approach to learning argue that it provides more of an opportunity for students to interact with the teacher and other students. Those who feel that learning over the Internet is better argue that it allows students to learn anytime and anywhere they choose. Do you feel education is better provided in traditional classrooms or when offered over the Internet? Write an essay to be read by a classroom teacher in which you persuade the reader that either traditional classroom education or Internet-based learning is better.

Lesson Name: Writing Workshop: Visual Media Analysis

Full Prompt

Examine an advertising campaign created by the Center for Disease Control that promotes the influenza (flu) vaccination. Analyze the campaign to discover the target audience and the advertising techniques used. Then, evaluate the effectiveness of these advertising techniques. Write a five-paragraph essay in which you explain how the advertising campaign effectively promotes the influenza vaccination to a range of audiences.

Lesson Name: Writing Workshop: Evaluating Sources That Support a Claim

Full Prompt

Health care costs in the United States are on the rise. Some people say that a universal health care system would bring costs down and increase access to care. Others say it

would be too expensive and would reduce the quality of care. Examine editorials from both sides of the argument. Then, write a five-paragraph essay in which you compare and contrast each argument in terms of objectivity and the types of evidence presented. Evaluate and explain how the sources use effective evidence to support their claims.

Lesson Name: Research Workshop: Writing an Argumentative Essay

Full Prompt

Read the passage about genetically modified foods. Considering the risks and benefits of this new technology, what do you think about the use of such foods? Write a well-developed essay in which you articulate a position on the use of genetically modified foods. Support your position with information from the passage or other research you have conducted.

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Lesson Name: Writing: Essay - Reflective

Full Prompt

Bad Things Lead to Good

We have all encountered bad situations in our lives that later turned out to lead to good things. Think of a time when a bad situation actually resulted in a good outcome. What happened? What did you learn from this experience?

Write an essay about a bad situation that you have encountered that later turned out positively and what you learned from the experience.

Lesson Name: Writing: Essay - Descriptive

Full Prompt

A Dinner Menu

You are preparing a dinner menu to celebrate a special occasion and need to decide what food you will serve to your friends.

Describe each of the foods you will include on your menu and explain why you made the choices you did. Describe how you will present the meal to your friends.

Lesson Name: Writing: Essay - Reporting Literary Research

Full Prompt

Foreshadowing in Macbeth

When you think back to the opening scene or chapter of some works, you realize that early incidents or events became more and more important as you got further on in the work. The writer's technique here is foreshadowing, hinting or suggesting outcomes early in the work without giving the whole story away. The real importance of the first scene might not be revealed until much later in the work, perhaps not until the very end. Macbeth is a play which uses foreshadowing in such a way to suggest to the reader (or viewer) the conflicts yet to come.

Write an essay in which you analyze the opening scene of Macbeth. Explain the incidents or events and how they take on more meaning or significance later in the play. Be sure to

tell at what point the true importance of the opening scene becomes clear to the reader (or viewer).

Lesson Name: Writing: Essay - Literature Analysis

Full Prompt

The Story of an Eyewitness by Jack London

Read the account of the San Francisco Earthquake by Jack London.

In a well-developed essay, analyze Jack London's use of vivid language in his account of the San Francisco Earthquake.

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Lesson Name: Writing: Essay - Research Paper

Full Prompt

The Future of Your Chosen Career

There are many professions or fields from which you can choose a career or job when you complete your education. Think about a profession or type of job that is of interest to you and how you feel it will change in the future. In what ways do you feel this profession or job area will change and why do you feel these changes will occur?

Lesson Name: Writing: Essay - Compare and Contrast

	Full Prompt
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"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single minute before starting to improve the world."

--Anne Frank

While society is currently undergoing many rapid changes, people disagree about their direction. Has the world, in fact, changed for the better or worse?

Write a multi-paragraph essay supporting your position on this issue. Be sure to include specific details and examples from your own experiences or readings

Lesson Name: Writing: Essay - Persuasive - *What is Wisdom?*

	Full Prompt
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What is Wisdom?

"It is no longer enough to be smart -- all the technological tools in the world add meaning and value only if they enhance our core values, the deepest part of our heart. Acquiring knowledge is no guarantee of practical, useful application. Wisdom implies a mature integration of appropriate knowledge, a seasoned ability to filter the inessential from the essential." --Doc Childre and Deborah Rozman

People define wisdom in a variety of ways. How would you define it?

Lesson Name: Writing: Essay - Persuasive - *Essential Job Skills*

	<p>Full Prompt</p>
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Essential Job Skills

Many people have argued that the skills needed to be successful in today's workforce have changed. What skills do you feel an individual needs to be successful in a job today? Why do you feel these skills are most important?

In an essay to be read by a teacher, identify the skills you feel are most needed by an individual to be successful at work and provide reasons to persuade your teacher that these are the most critical skills for success.