**Free Writing Strategy #1 - October**

**Writing Prompts**

**Common Core Standards:**

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.4

Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

**Purpose:**

* To motivate and inspire reluctant writers by piquing student interest.
* To engage and assist students in the writing process with the use of writing prompts that are relevant to students lives.
* To enable students to feel a connection to their writing through the incorporation of their opinions and/or life experiences.
* To help students focus their writing with the use of a prompt.

**Directions:**

Writing prompts can be used as a bell-ringer activity, ticket-out-the-door, or as a formative assessment after instruction.

1. Create a writing prompt that is open-ended and relevant to students’ every day culture of life.
2. Try to utilize a prompt that encourages opinion or personal experience.
3. Place the prompt on the board or overhead.
4. Encourage the students to practice “wait time” or “think time” before they write to formulate their ideas – a strategy that good writers use!
5. Students may also enjoy sharing their writing with the class or with a partner – allowing the students’ voices to be heard.

**Examples:**

**Math:**

When it comes to math, I find it difficult to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If I could be any shape in math I would be a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Science:**

It’s the year 2065, Earth has been without a sun for 12 years; you look out your window and see \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

What is more important for the survival of mankind; the plant or the animal? How would life be different without one or the other?

**CTE:**

You just realized that you dyed your clients hair bright orange on her wedding day. You decide to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

What is your view of the idea that the customer is always right?

**Art:**

If you were a texture, what texture would you be? Explain.

If I scribble on a page, is it art? Why or why not?

**PE:**

My most memorable moment in gym class was \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

I believe I should/should not take written tests in gym because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Social Studies:**

If you could have grown up in a different place and culture from your own, where and which would you choose? How would it be different?

If you could have dinner with any historical figure you have learned about this far, who would you choose and why?

**English:**

It has often been said, “Ignorance is bliss and what you don’t know won’t hurt you.” Do you agree or disagree with these statements? Why or why not.

What is your prized possession? Under what circumstances would you be willing to part with it?

**Helpful Web Resources**

[www.misd.net/langrageart/grammarinaction/501writingprompts.pdf](http://www.misd.net/langrageart/grammarinaction/501writingprompts.pdf)

<http://www.spellingcity.com/writing-prompts-that-motivate.html>