***English language arts WRITING PROMPTS***

You can use these writing prompts for writing practice in preparation for the spring TELPAS.

How you grade these prompt is up to you; however, please remember the following guidelines for TELPAS writing from TEA:

* ESL/LEP students (including LEP waivered students) must have at least 2 of their five TELPAS writing samples from math, science, or social studies
* the compositions should be about a page in length
* the compositions should be written in the students’ own words, not copied or rely too heavily on a dictionary or thesaurus
* the compositions “should show the ability of the students to connect ideas and express themselves in English in an extended way”
* the actual TELPAS writing samples cannot show a teacher’s corrections or be polished through editing by peers, teachers, or parents
* the actual TELPAS writing samples cannot be assigned before February 18, 2013
* the actual TELPAS writing samples should not show brief, rushed, or incomplete writing
* the actual TELPAS writing samples cannot be worksheets, question/answer writing assignments or short-answer response formats.

**English Language Arts Writing Prompt Schedule**

* **Why is it important to be honest?**

The word can be used as honesty

Guide the students through the thinking process:

SENTENCE FRAMES/ SENTENCE STARTERS:

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| --- | --- |
| NEW- COMER BEGINNER | BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE |
| It is important to be honest because....  It says who you are.... | Honesty is important because...  It shows who you are...... |
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1. Define the word honest
2. What does it mean to be honest?
   1. Honest is telling the truth....
   2. Not lying to my parents, teachers, or to my friends...
3. Examples and consequences of **not** being honest
   1. I am not honest when I lie
   2. Skipping class is not being honest
   3. Not telling the truth
   4. I get in trouble when I am not honest
   5. Not going to school and saying you did
   6. Your friends will not be able to trust you any more
   7. You will not feel comfortable
   8. You will feel bad
   9. You feel guilty
   10. You think...how would I feel if my friend is not honest with me
4. Provide examples of when you have been honest
5. Give examples of when you have been honest
   1. I tell the truth
   2. When my mom, my dad, my teacher, my friend....asks me a question I tell the truth
   3. When I find something that is not mine I report it
   4. When I do my own homework
   5. When I tell my friend the truth
   6. When I keep my eyes on my own paper
   7. Admit that you made a mistake
   8. Keeping a secret
   9. Turning in a wallet full of money that you found...

* Write about a time when your feelings were hurt? What did you do?

Guide the students through the thinking process:

SENTENCE FRAMES/ SENTENCE STARTERS:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| NEW- COMER BEGINNER | BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE |
| To be hurt is to be sad... |  |
|  |  |
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Guide the students through the thinking process:

1. Define the word hurt
2. What does it mean to be hurt?
   1. Hurt is being sad
   2. Hurt is being betrayed
   3. Hurt is being brokenhearted
   4. Hurt is being lonely
   5. Hurt is being in pain
3. Examples and consequences of **not** being hurt
   1. I am not hurt when people ( friends, mom, dad, teacher.....) are honest
   2. When I feel respected
   3. When I am valued
   4. When I feel I am part of the group
   5. When I feel I am accepted ...
   6. When I am not the last person to be picked...
   7. When my opinion matters
   8. When my friends are loyal to me
4. Provide examples of when you have been hurt
5. Give examples of when you have been hurt
   1. When my friends talk bad about me
   2. When I am picked last
   3. When I am accused of something I did not do
   4. When someone does not believe me
   5. Broken promises
   6. When my girlfriend/boyfriend breaks up with me
   7. When my friends do not want me to join them
   8. When someone lets you down
   9. When someone who I am waiting for does not show up
   10. When someone tells on you
6. When was the last time you were hurt by someone who did not mean to hurt you?

SENTENCE FRAMES/ SENTENCE STARTERS:

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| NEW- COMER BEGINNER | BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE |
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* What is the least important to you – money, fame, or power? Explain why.

Guide the students through the thinking process:

SENTENCE FRAMES/ SENTENCE STARTERS:

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| NEW- COMER BEGINNER | BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE |
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* Why do you think prejudice, or disliking people because of how they look or what they believe, exists in the world?

Guide the students through the thinking process:

SENTENCE FRAMES/ SENTENCE STARTERS:

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| NEW- COMER BEGINNER | BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE |
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* If you owned a time machine, where would you go and to whom would you want to be a friend?
* Guide the students through the thinking process:

SENTENCE FRAMES/ SENTENCE STARTERS:

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| NEW- COMER BEGINNER | BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE |
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* Should schools be open all year long? Why or why not?

Guide the students through the thinking process:

SENTENCE FRAMES/ SENTENCE STARTERS:

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| NEW- COMER BEGINNER | BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE |
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* Do you think there is too much violence on television? Why or why not?

Guide the students through the thinking process:

SENTENCE FRAMES/ SENTENCE STARTERS:

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| NEW- COMER BEGINNER | BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE |
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1. (remember students’ writings can now be dated February 1 and after)

* Why is it important for every student to learn a second language? Explain your answer.
* Guide the students through the thinking process:

SENTENCE FRAMES/ SENTENCE STARTERS:

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| NEW- COMER BEGINNER | BEGINNER - INTERMEDIATE |
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