

Expository HSPE Prompts

Sophomores: Below is a list of expository prompts to help you prepare for the HSPE. Please pick one of the following topics to write a well-constructed essay. Include an introduction and conclusion paragraph, and multiple body paragraphs. Don't forget to include specific elaboration and examples, and watch your conventions!

1. Freeman High School is putting together a time capsule that will be opened in the year 2109. Each student has been asked to put in items that will show the future Freeman students what life was like in 2009. Choose one or two items to put in the time capsule that show what high school life is like for you, and/or what is important to you. Write a multi-paragraph letter to your school board identifying one or two items explain why you have selected them. (2002)
2. School is not the only place we learn. Write a multi-paragraph letter to a teacher in which you identify something you remember learning outside of school and explain the way it has been important to you. (2003)
3. If you could be any age, what age would you be? Write a multiple-paragraph essay for your teacher identifying the age you would be and explaining why you would choose this age. (2004)
4. High school is full of challenges. Write a multiple-paragraph essay for your teacher explaining one or two challenges you have, or someone else has, faced in high school. (2005)
5. Think of someone – a classmate, friend, relative, teacher, or someone else – you would like to see again. Write a multiple-paragraph essay for your teacher in which you identify whom you would like to see again and explain why you would like to see him or her again. (2008)
6. Young people try activities, such as learning how to cook a meal or learning how to swim. These activities become learning experiences. What activities have you tried? Choose an activity that you have tried and then write a multiple-paragraph essay for your teacher explain what you learned from doing that activity. (2009)
7. All of us have had experiences with money. It might be an experience in which you earned, lost, saved, or needed money. Choose an experience you have had with money that you will remember for some time. Write a multiple-paragraph essay for your teacher in which you explain what happened and why that experience was important to you. (2010)
8. Minor characters often play important roles in novels. Choose a minor character from a novel you have read during the past year. Novel: _____ Character: _____ In a multi-paragraph essay for your English teacher, explain how this character contributed to or impacted the novel's conflicts and theme(s).

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9. As part of your senior project and 5 year plan, you have been exploring possible careers for your future. Write a multiple-paragraph letter to your school counselor in which you explain a career that you are interested in and your plans to obtain that job. Include the reasons for your career choice.
10. Every person has a special talent or ability. In a multi-paragraph essay for your teacher, identify your own special talent or ability and explain how it is useful or important to you.
11. It is a common belief that students can benefit from participating in extra-curricular activities. Write a multiple-paragraph essay to your teacher explaining whether or not you support this view.
12. Many scientists claim that American lifestyles and our current use of certain technologies and fossil fuels are resulting in global warming. In a multi-paragraph essay to your school newspaper to explain what you know and/or believe about global warming.
13. Choose a band or singer from any type of music (such as rock, jazz, rap, alternative, country, classical, or hip-hop) that interests you. In a multiple paragraph essay to an interested adult, explain why you enjoy that singer or band.
14. Many of us dream about taking the perfect vacation. The world is filled with wonderful places to visit and many activities to experience. Write a multiple-paragraph essay to an adult explaining what your dream vacation would be, including activities you would do.