

**STAAR Expository Writing Prompts
Organized by Year**

Grade 7 Released Test, 2018	Write an essay explaining why it is important to keep the promises you make.
English I Released Test, 2018	Write an essay explaining why new technology is so important to teenagers.
Grade 7 Released Test, 2017	Write an essay explaining why setting a goal is important.
English I Released Test, 2017	Write an essay explaining one way that people can work together to make a difference.
Grade 7 Released Test, 2016*	Write an essay explaining whether a positive attitude helps a person be successful.
English I Released Test, 2016	Write an essay explaining your definition of a true friendship.
Grade 7 Released Test, 2015	Write an essay explaining the importance of having a good friend.
English I Released Test, 2015	Write an essay explaining how actions can be more powerful than words.
Grade 7 Released Test, 2014*	Write an essay explaining whether it is important to laugh.
English I Released Test, 2014*	Write an essay explaining whether failure can strengthen a person.
Grade 7 Released Test, 2013	Write an essay explaining the importance of never giving up.
English I Released Test, 2013	Write an essay explaining why it is sometimes necessary to take a chance.
English II Released Test, 2013	Write an essay explaining the importance of getting to know people before forming an opinion about them.
Grade 7 Released Test, 2012*	Write an essay explaining whether it is ever okay to break the rules.
English I Released Test, 2012	Write an essay explaining the effect of one new technology on people's lives.

**These prompts have been identified as Expository Writing Prompts by TEA. However, due to the inclusion of the word "whether" indicating that the writer is expected to express an opinion, they are also cross-listed as Persuasive Writing Prompts.*

Grade 7 Sample Test, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether it is better to work by yourself or with a group.
English I Sample Test, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether people should be more concerned about others than about themselves.
English II Sample Test, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether a person must always be acknowledged in order to have accomplished something.

**These prompts have been identified as Expository Writing Prompts by TEA. However, due to the inclusion of the word "whether" indicating that the writer is expected to express an opinion, they are also cross-listed as Persuasive Writing Prompts.*

**STAAR Expository Writing Prompts
Organized by Grade Level**

Grade 7	
Released Test, 2018	Write an essay explaining why it is important to keep the promises you make.
Released Test, 2017	Write an essay explaining why setting a goal is important.
Released Test, 2016*	Write an essay explaining whether a positive attitude helps a person be successful.
Released Test, 2015	Write an essay explaining the importance of having a good friend.
Released Test, 2014*	Write an essay explaining whether it is important to laugh.
Released Test, 2013	Write an essay explaining the importance of never giving up.
Released Test, 2012*	Write an essay explaining whether it is ever okay to break the rules.
Sample Test, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether it is better to work by yourself or with a group.
English I	
Released Test, 2018	Write an essay explaining why new technology is so important to teenagers.
Released Test, 2017	Write an essay explaining one way that people can work together to make a difference.
Released Test, 2016	Write an essay explaining your definition of a true friendship.
Released Test, 2015	Write an essay explaining how actions can be more powerful than words.
Released Test, 2014*	Write an essay explaining whether failure can strengthen a person.
Released Test, 2013	Write an essay explaining why it is sometimes necessary to take a chance.

**These prompts have been identified as Expository Writing Prompts by TEA. However, due to the inclusion of the word "whether" indicating that the writer is expected to express an opinion, they are also cross-listed as Persuasive Writing Prompts.*

Released Test, 2012	Write an essay explaining the effect of one new technology on people's lives.
Sample Test, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether people should be more concerned about others than about themselves.
English II	
Released Test, 2013	Write an essay explaining the importance of getting to know people before forming an opinion about them.
Sample Test, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether a person must always be acknowledged in order to have accomplished something.

**These prompts have been identified as Expository Writing Prompts by TEA. However, due to the inclusion of the word "whether" indicating that the writer is expected to express an opinion, they are also cross-listed as Persuasive Writing Prompts.*

**STAAR Persuasive Writing Prompts
Organized by Year**

English II Released Test, 2018	Write an essay stating your opinion on whether it's better to succeed individually or as part of a team.
English II Released Test, 2017	Write an essay stating your opinion on whether a person can choose to be happy.
Grade 7 Released Test, 2016*	Write an essay explaining whether a positive attitude helps a person be successful.
English II Released Test, 2016	Write an essay stating your opinion on whether maturity is dependent on a person's age.
English II Released Test, 2015	Write an essay stating your opinion on whether it's better to dream big or to be realistic.
Grade 7 Released Test, 2014*	Write an essay explaining whether it is important to laugh.
English I Released Test, 2014*	Write an essay explaining whether failure can strengthen a person.
English II Released Test, 2014	Write an essay stating your position on whether learning always has a positive effect on a person's life.
English II Released Test, 2013	Write an essay stating your position on whether it is better to live in a large city or in a small town.
Grade 7 Released Test, 2012*	Write an essay explaining whether it is ever okay to break the rules.
Grade 7 Sample, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether it is better to work by yourself or with a group.
English I Sample, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether people should be more concerned about others than about themselves.
English II Sample, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether a person must always be acknowledged in order to have accomplished something.
English II Sample, 2011	Write an essay stating your position on which is more important: what a person thinks or what a person does.

**These prompts have been identified as Expository Writing Prompts by TEA. However, due to the inclusion of the word "whether" indicating that the writer is expected to express an opinion, they are also cross-listed as Persuasive Writing Prompts.*

**STAAR Persuasive Writing Prompts
Organized by Grade Level**

Grade 7	
Released Test, 2016*	Write an essay explaining whether a positive attitude helps a person be successful.
Released Test, 2014*	Write an essay explaining whether it is important to laugh.
Released Test, 2012*	Write an essay explaining whether it is ever okay to break the rules.
Sample Test, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether it is better to work by yourself or with a group.
English I	
Released Test, 2014*	Write an essay explaining whether failure can strengthen a person.
Sample Test, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether people should be more concerned about others than about themselves.
English II	
Released Test, 2018	Write an essay stating your opinion on whether it's better to succeed individually or as part of a team.
Released Test, 2017	Write an essay stating your opinion on whether a person can choose to be happy.
Released Test, 2016	Write an essay stating your opinion on whether maturity is dependent on a person's age.
Released Test, 2015	Write an essay stating your opinion on whether it's better to dream big or to be realistic.
Released Test, 2014	Write an essay stating your position on whether learning always has a positive effect on a person's life.
Released Test, 2013	Write an essay stating your position on whether it is better to live in a large city or in a small town.
Sample Test, 2011*	Write an essay explaining whether a person must always be acknowledged in order to have accomplished something.
Sample Test, 2011	Write an essay stating your position on which is more important: what a person thinks or what a person does.

**These prompts have been identified as Expository Writing Prompts by TEA. However, due to the inclusion of the word "whether" indicating that the writer is expected to express an opinion, they are also cross-listed as Persuasive Writing Prompts.*

STAAR Expository Writing Prompts

	Grade 7	English I	English II
Sample Tests, 2011	Write an essay explaining whether it is better to work by yourself or with a group.*	Write an essay explaining whether people should be more concerned about others than about themselves.*	Write an essay explaining whether a person must always be acknowledged in order to have accomplished something.*
Released Test, 2012	Write an essay explaining whether it is ever okay to break the rules.*	Write an essay explaining the effect of one new technology on people's lives.	
Released Tests, 2013	Write an essay explaining the importance of never giving up.	Write an essay explaining why it is sometimes necessary to take a chance.	Write an essay explaining the importance of getting to know people before forming an opinion about them.
Released Test, 2014	Write an essay explaining whether it is important to laugh.*	Write an essay explaining whether failure can strengthen a person.*	
Released Tests, 2015	Write an essay explaining the importance of having a good friend.	Write an essay explaining how actions can be more powerful than words.	
Released Test, 2016	Write an essay explaining whether a positive attitude helps a person be successful.*	Write an essay explaining your definition of a true friendship.	
Released Tests, 2017	Write an essay explaining why setting a goal is important.	Write an essay explaining one way that people can work together to make a difference.	
Released Tests, 2018	Write an essay explaining why it is important to keep the promises you make.	Write an essay explaining why new technology is so important to teenagers.	

**These prompts have been identified as Expository Writing Prompts by TEA. However, due to the inclusion of the word "whether" indicating that the writer is expected to express an opinion, they are also cross-listed as Persuasive Writing Prompts.*

STAAR Persuasive Writing Prompts

	Grade 7	English I	English II
Sample Tests, 2011	Write an essay explaining whether it is better to work by yourself or with a group.*	Write an essay explaining whether people should be more concerned about others than about themselves.*	Write an essay explaining whether a person must always be acknowledged in order to have accomplished something.* Write an essay stating your position on which is more important: what a person thinks or what a person does.
Released Test, 2012	Write an essay explaining whether it is ever okay to break the rules.*		
Released Test, 2013			Write an essay stating your position on whether it is better to live in a large city or in a small town.
Released Tests, 2014	Write an essay explaining whether it is important to laugh.*	Write an essay explaining whether failure can strengthen a person.*	Write an essay stating your position on whether learning always has a positive effect on a person's life.
Released Test, 2015			Write an essay stating your opinion on whether it's better to dream big or to be realistic.
Released Tests, 2016	Write an essay explaining whether a positive attitude helps a person be successful.*		Write an essay stating your opinion on whether maturity is dependent on a person's age.
Released Test, 2017			Write an essay stating your opinion on whether a person can choose to be happy.
Released Test, 2018			Write an essay stating your opinion on whether it's better to succeed individually or as part of a team.

**These prompts have been identified as Expository Writing Prompts by TEA. However, due to the inclusion of the word "whether" indicating that the writer is expected to express an opinion, they are also cross-listed as Persuasive Writing Prompts.*