

## Informational Prompts vs. Argumentative Prompts vs. SCR Reading Prompts

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Grade Level	Informational Mode Extended Constructed Response <ECR Directions Template>	Argumentative Mode Extended Constructed Response <ECR Directions Template>	Short Constructed Response (Reading)
3	Explain the benefits of recycling.	Explain your opinion about why people should or should not be rewarded for recycling.	
3	Explain the relationship between the poet and the pants and <b>how</b> this relationship is developed by the poet.	Explain whether the poet has a positive or negative relationship with the pants.	How do the speaker's feelings change in lines 17 through 28 of the poem "Lost Treasure"? Support your answer with evidence from the poem.
3	Explain how bees and pumpkins are beneficial to one another.	Explain whether bees and pumpkins are beneficial to one another.	Based on the information in paragraph 8, <b>what</b> can you infer about why Snell's company calls Big Tex "fried chicken"? Support your answer with evidence from the article.
3			In lines 20 through 29, <b>what</b> is the most likely reason the poet uses imagery to describe the pants getting washed? Support your answer with evidence from the poem.
4	Explain why the Edwards Aquifer is important to the article.	Explain whether the Edwards Aquifer and the Austin Blind Salamander are beneficial to one another.	
4	Explain how Herbie's behavior changes and <b>how</b> this is developed by the playwright.	Explain whether Herbie's behavior changes or remains the same throughout the play.	Why did Nia choose to be in the same clubs with Marley in the past? Support your answer with evidence from the story.
4	Explain how the people in BOTH articles dance for similar reasons.	Explain whether the people in BOTH articles dance for similar or different reasons.	What is one key idea found in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the article? Support your answer with evidence from the article.
4			Why are lines 27 through 34 important to the plot of the play? Support your answer with evidence from the play.
5	Explain how Kim shows determination throughout the story.	Explain whether Kim's behavior changes or remains the same throughout the story.	
5	Steamboats and clippers were popular forms of transportation in the United States in the 1800s. Explain how the steamboat changed life in the United States.	Steamboats and clippers were popular forms of transportation in the United States in the 1800s. Explain whether you think the steamboat or the clipper ship changed life in the United States more.	What is one reason the author presents the information in the article in chronological order?
5	Explain why Baby Bear changes his attitude toward Goldie over the course of the play.	Explain whether Baby Bear changes his attitude toward Goldie over the course of the play.	Based on paragraph 7 of the article "The Cholla Cactus," why does the wood rat use the cholla cactus to build its nest? Support your answer with evidence from the article.
5	Explain how the speaker's feelings about the grandparents change as they spend time together.	Explain whether the speaker's feelings about the grandparents change as they spend time together.	Why is the play divided into two scenes? Support your answer with evidence from the play.
6	Explain how the Camel Mobile Library has affected the people of Garissa.	Explain whether the Camel Mobile Library is a good solution to the	

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		problem of delivering books to remote areas.	
6	<b>Explain how</b> the author develops the idea in the article that it is not easy to become a NASA astronaut.	<b>Explain whether</b> the author thinks it is difficult or easy to become a NASA astronaut.	<b>What</b> is the most likely reason the poet rhymes the first and last lines of each stanza? Support your answer with evidence from the poem.
6	Though <i>The Silmarillion</i> and the painting of George Washington were left incomplete by their creators, both are widely known today. <b>Explain how</b> the painting and the novel are different in their journeys from unfinished projects to popular and important works.	Though <i>The Silmarillion</i> and the painting of George Washington were left incomplete by their creators, both are widely known today. <b>Explain whether</b> their journeys contributed to them being popular and important works.	In paragraph 3 of "George Washington's Portrait," <b>why</b> does the author include the detail of Gilbert Stuart talking to George Washington about horses? Support your answer with evidence from the article.
6	<b>Explain how</b> India's reactions to a series of surprises help develop her character.	<b>Explain whether</b> India's reactions to a series of surprises help develop her character.	
7	<b>Explain</b> some ways humans benefit from allowing robots to complete simple tasks at home <b>and</b> in the workplace.	Based on information in the article, write an essay in which you <b>explain whether</b> robots are beneficial to humans.	
7	<b>Explain how</b> the friendship between Angie and Pete contributes to the development of a theme in the play.	<b>Explain whether</b> the friendship between Angie and Pete contributes to the development of a theme in the play.	<b>Why</b> is it important to the conflict that this excerpt takes place in the distant past? Support your answer with evidence from the excerpt.
7	Based on information in the article, write an essay in which you <b>explain why</b> the U.S. Army should not have attempted to rebuild the Camel Corps following the Civil War.	Based on information in the article, write an essay in which you <b>argue</b> that the U.S. Army <b>should or should not</b> have attempted to rebuild the Camel Corps following the Civil War.	<b>What</b> effect does Angie have on the resolution of the conflict? Support your answer with evidence from the play.
7			In paragraphs 2 through 4, <b>how</b> does the use of a problem-and-solution organizational structure help the reader understand the information in the article? Support your answer with evidence from the article.
8	<b>Explain what</b> new research reveals about horses' ability to communicate.	<b>Explain whether</b> horses are effective communicators.	<b>What</b> is one way the setting in "The Antique Shop" affects Jesse's values. Support your answer with evidence from the story.
8	<b>Explain how</b> Anthony's interactions with Grandpa help to develop a theme about how sharing experiences may lead to greater understanding between people.	<b>Explain whether</b> Anthony's interactions with Grandpa help or hinder the development of a theme in the selection.	<b>What</b> characteristics of the story help the reader identify it as realistic fiction? Support your answer with evidence from the story.
8	<b>Explain how</b> Avery's father in the story "Avery's Gift" is similar to Ellison's father in the article "Chicken of the Sea..."	<b>Explain whether</b> Avery's father in the story "Avery's Gift" is similar to Ellison's father in the article "Chicken of the Sea..."	<b>Explain how</b> Anthony's behavior in paragraphs 12 through 14 affects the resolution of the plot. Support your answer with evidence from the story.
8			<b>Why</b> do many business experts believe that a recognizable logo is valuable? Support your answer with evidence from the article.

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9	<b>Explain why</b> travelers enjoy using the National Road today.	Based on information in the article, write an essay in which you <b>explain whether</b> the National Road was or was not a beneficial project.	<b>What</b> do the single-sentence stanzas in the poem “Simply Me” help the reader understand? Support your answer with evidence from the poem.
9	<b>Explain how</b> reading the journal leads Katie to remind herself to look for fireflies.	<b>Explain whether</b> Katie identifies more with the fireflies or the butterflies.	<b>How</b> does the descriptive organizational pattern used in paragraphs 4-7 of the article “The Cowboy’s Home on Wheels” contribute to the development of the thesis? Support your answer with evidence from the article.
9	<b>Explain how</b> the characterizations of Ashoke and Mrs. Lapidus contribute to the development of the plot in this excerpt.	<b>Explain whether</b> the characterization of Ashoke or Mrs. Lapidus contributes more to the development of the plot in this excerpt.	<b>Which</b> events in the excerpt help express the theme of self-determination? Support your answer with evidence from the excerpt.
9	<b>Explain how</b> the author of the article and the poet both emphasize how the quality of food had an effect on cowboys’ morale.	<b>Explain whether</b> the quality of food had an effect on cowboys’ morale.	Based on the section “Going Deeper Than Baseball,” <b>what</b> conclusion can be made about the coaches at IMG? Support your answer with evidence from the article.
10	<b>Explain how</b> acquiring the loft room changes Thea.	<b>Explain whether</b> acquiring the loft room changes Thea.	
10	<b>Explain</b> the feelings the poet expresses while watching the fox and <b>how</b> those feelings are developed by the poet.	Write an essay in which you <b>argue</b> that the poet uses his expression of feelings while watching the fox to develop the poem.	<b>How</b> does the rising action in paragraphs 3 and 4 develop a theme in the excerpt? Support your answer with evidence from the excerpt.
10	Write a letter to your principal in which you <b>explain how</b> a volunteering program would benefit your school.	Write a letter to your principal in which you <b>argue</b> who would benefit most from a volunteering program at school: student participants or members of the community they could serve.	<b>How</b> does the author’s use of language in this quotation affect the reader? Support your answer with evidence from the selection.
10			<b>What</b> is the most likely reason the poet includes the words “tired” and “disapproving” in the last stanza (lines 19-21)? Support your answer with evidence from the poem.