

HIGH SCHOOL PROFICIENCY PROMPTS

Concerns about student diets have led to the removal of junk food like candy, chips and sodas in many schools Do you agree with this policy? Defend your position.

Looking back, each of us has a year that was better than the others. Think about a year that was your favorite year. Explain your choice.

What is the most important advice that you could give to another person? Explain why you think this advice is important.

Each of us is learning all the time. Think of something that you have learned recently. Write about your experience of learning and how it has affected you.

Choose one thing that you like most about yourself or about someone close to you. Explain why.

Sometimes we have to work hard to finish something we have started. Think about a time when you or someone you know did not give up on something that was important. Write about that experience.

Complete the following statement, and defend your answer. "I believe that every person has the right to..."

Weather can often have an influence on what happens to us. Write about a time when the weather played a part in an experience that happened to you or to someone you know.

People often debate the value of formal education. Some believe leaving school and going to work before graduation has advantages. Others believe success will come from staying in school. How important do you think a high school education is in today's society? Explain your answer.

Water is connected to many experiences that we have. Think of an experience you or someone you know has had that involved water. Write about what happened.

People can be “rich” in more ways than just by having a great amount of money. Think of another way that you or someone you know may be “rich” in something other than money. Explain how that person is “rich.”

Food is connected to many experiences that we have. Think about an experience that you or someone you know has had that involved food. Write about what happened.

We all have someone we respect. Think of a person whom you respect. Explain why you respect the person you chose.

Sometimes even small things make a difference in someone else’s life. If you could do one small thing to make someone’s life better, what would it be? Explain what you would do for the person and why.

Some countries require that all men and women provide two years of military service to their country before they reach the age of 25. Argue for or against this requirement.

Most people have a day that they remember because it was special for them in some way. Choose a day that was special for you, and tell about it.

In the United States, people have many different kinds of freedom, but not everyone places the same value on each freedom. Choose one freedom that you believe is the most important. Present an argument to convince others that the freedom you chose is important and should be protected.

There are many different ways to be smart. Describe a person who you think is smart. Explain why you chose the person you did.

To motivate students to stay in school, some people suggest that students under the age of 18 who drop out of school should lose the right to drive. Agree or disagree with this idea. Defend your choice.

We all remember certain people because they are interesting. Choose one interesting or unusual person you have known, and explain what makes that person so interesting to you.

Think of an environmental problem that exists. Explain the problem, and convince your reader of the best way to solve this difficulty.

During high school, you have taken many different classes. Choose the class you have taken that is your favorite one, and explain why you chose that class.

Many school districts have separate schools for those students who often misbehave and interfere with classroom learning. Do you agree or disagree with this policy? Write a paper explaining the reasons for your opinion.

Some people are reluctant to ask for help when something is difficult. Think of a time when you had to do something difficult and you had to ask for help. Explain what happened and what you learned.

You have been given an all-expense paid trip to a place or city of your choice. What would you choose to go and why?

Write about an experience that was important to you that involved money. It might be an experience in which you earned, lost, spent, or were given money. Tell what the experience was and why the experience was important to you.

Think of an advertisement or commercial you have particularly liked or disliked. Describe the commercial or advertisement and explain why you liked or disliked it.

Life is full of surprises. Choose one time when something unexpected happened to you. Write about what happened and why it surprised you.

Our society has many problems. Identify one of these problems that you believe is the most important. Explain the problem, and suggest a possible solution to it.

Think of something that you have that you value but did not buy for yourself. Describe what it is, and explain why you chose it.

Some schools in the United States require that students volunteer for several hours each semester to help provide service to the community. Do you think that students should be required to volunteer to help in the community? Write an essay explaining your position.

If you were given the opportunity to spend two hours each week working on a community task of your choice, explain where you would volunteer and why, what you would accomplish, and how it would benefit your environment.