

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 2
Test Code 0202
N**

Writing Situation

We have all had days that were special to us.

Directions for Writing

Think about a day you have had that was special to you.

Tell what happened that made it a special day.

**Grade 2
Test Code 0203
E**

Writing Situation

Children like to play games. Sometimes they like to play with a friend and sometimes they like to play alone.

Directions for Writing

Before you begin writing, think about a game you like to play and what makes it fun.

Now explain why you like playing this game.

**Grade 3
Test Code 0301
E**

Writing Situation

We all have activities that we like to do on a day off from school.

Directions for Writing

Think about an activity that you like to do on a day when you do not have to go to school.

Now explain an activity that you like to do on a day off from school.

**Grade 3
Test Code 0302
N**

Writing Situation

On your way to school one morning you see a huge truck speeding down the road. Suddenly, the back door of the truck opens and a large, mysterious box falls off the back of the truck. It just sits in the road.

Directions for Writing

Think about this box. What is in the box? What do you do?

Now write a story about this mysterious box.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 3
Test Code 0303
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has something that is special to them.

Directions for Writing

Think about something that is special to you and what makes it special.

Now tell what your special thing is and explain why it is special to you.

**Grade 3
Test Code 0304
N**

Writing Situation

You heard a scream! The pet mouse in the classroom next door had escaped! When you hurried into the room, you found that the teacher was alone and could not find the pet mouse.

Directions for Writing

Think about what happened as you looked for the mouse.

Now tell what happened when you looked for the mouse.

**Grade 3
Test Code 0305
E**

Writing Situation

Best friends are special people in our lives.

Directions for Writing

Think about your best friend.

Now explain why he or she is your best friend.

**Grade 3
Test Code 0306
N**

Writing Situation

Everyone has been in a storm. Storms may have wind, rain, or snow.

Directions for Writing

Think about the worst storm you have been in. Think about the things you saw, heard, or felt.

Now tell a story about the worst storm you have ever been in.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 3
Test Code 0307
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has someone who is important to them.

Directions for Writing

Think about someone who is important to you.

Now explain why this person is important to you.

**Grade 3
Test Code 0308
N**

Writing Situation

Children like to play outdoors.

Directions for Writing

Think about a time that you couldn't play outside because it was a rainy day.

Now write a story about a rainy day when you couldn't play outside.

**Grade 3
Test Code 0309
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has jobs or chores to do around the house. These may be things people do because they are asked to do them, or because it makes them feel good.

Directions for Writing

Think about jobs or chores you do around the house.

Now explain the jobs or chores you do around your house.

**Grade 3
Test Code 0310
N**

Writing Situation

Pretend that you have a magic carpet that will take you where you want to go.

Directions for Writing

Think about the ride that you took, how you felt, and the things you saw.

Now write a story about your magic carpet ride.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 3
Test Code 0311
E**

Writing Situation

The best gifts don't have to be large or cost too much. What makes them special is different for everyone.

Directions for Writing

Think about the best gift you ever received and what made it so special.

Now explain what that gift was and why it was such a special gift.

**Grade 3
Test Code 0312
N**

Writing Situation

Suppose that one day your principal walked in with a strange-looking suitcase.

Directions for Writing

Think about what your principal could have had in the strange-looking suitcase.

Now write a story about what was in the strange-looking suitcase.

**Grade 4
Test Code 0401
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has a favorite time of the year.

Directions for Writing

Think about your favorite time of year and why it is your favorite.

Now explain why this time of the year is your favorite.

**Grade 4
Test Code 0402
N**

Writing Situation

You have just been chosen as the teacher of your class for a day.

Directions for Writing

Think about what you would do if you were teacher for a day.

Now write a story about the time you were teacher for a day.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 4
Test Code 0403
E**

Writing Situation

Many movies are entertaining. People like to go to the movies or rent movies on video.

Directions for Writing

Think about your favorite movie.

Now explain why this movie is your favorite.

**Grade 4
Test Code 0404
N**

Writing Situation

Good friends like to share.

Directions for Writing

Think about a time you shared something with a friend.

Now write a story about a time you shared something with a friend.

**Grade 4
Test Code 0405
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has a favorite activity. People like to read, listen to music, play games, or talk with friends.

Directions for Writing

Think about your favorite activity and why it is your favorite.

Now explain why this activity is your favorite.

**Grade 4
Test Code 0406
N**

Writing Situation

Imagine it is night and you have just heard a loud noise outside. You wake up to bright lights.

Directions for Writing

Think about what the noise and light could have been.

Now tell what happened when you went outside at night to investigate the loud noise and bright lights.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 4
Test Code 0407
E**

Writing Situation

Suppose you could change one thing that would make your school a better place.

Directions for Writing

Think about the one thing you would change that would make your school a better place.

Now explain the one thing you would change and how it would make your school a better place.

**Grade 4
Test Code 0408
N**

Writing Situation

What would happen if one morning everyone woke up and discovered that their pets could talk?

Directions for Writing

Think about what would happen if you had a pet that could talk.

Now write a story about what would happen if you had a pet that could talk.

**Grade 4
Test Code 0409
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has thought about a place he or she would like to visit.

Directions for Writing

Think about a place you would like to visit.

Now tell where you would go and explain why you would go to this place.

**Grade 4
Test Code 0410
N**

Writing Situation

Sometimes things don't work out the way people want them to.

Directions for Writing

Think about a time when things didn't work out the way you wanted them to.

Now write a story about a time when things didn't work out the way you wanted them to.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 5
Test Code 0501
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has something that is very important to him or her. It may be a person or a thing.

Directions for Writing

Think about a person or a thing that is important to you and the reasons it is important.

Now explain why this person or thing is important to you.

**Grade 5
Test Code 0502
P**

Writing Situation

Your teacher needs to choose one student to help the principal with a special project.

Directions for Writing

Think about the reasons why your teacher should choose you to help the principal with the special project.

Now persuade your teacher to choose you to help the principal with the special project.

**Grade 5
Test Code 0503
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has a favorite toy or game.

Directions for Writing

Think about your favorite toy or game.

Now explain what your favorite toy or game is and why it is your favorite.

**Grade 5
Test Code 0504
P**

Writing Situation

Everyone knows that recycling protects our environment.

Directions for Writing

Think about how recycling helps to protect our environment.

Now persuade the students at your school to recycle.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 5
Test Code 0505
E**

Writing Situation

We all have activities that we like to do on a day off from school.

Directions for Writing

Think about a favorite activity you like to do on a day when you do not have to go to school.

Now explain an activity that you like to do on a day off from school.

**Grade 5
Test Code 0506
P**

Writing Situation

After-school activities help to make school enjoyable and meaningful for students.

Directions for Writing

Think about an after-school activity that you would like to have offered at your school.

Now persuade your principal that this after-school activity should be offered to the students at your school.

**Grade 5
Test Code 0507
E**

Writing Situation

Doctors say that exercise is important. People exercise in different ways.

Directions for Writing

Think about the kinds of exercise you do.

Now tell what exercise you like most and explain why it is your favorite.

**Grade 5
Test Code 0508
P**

Writing Situation

Your class is planning an end of the year trip in Florida. You all agree that it should be a fun and exciting trip. Money is no object because a company is giving the school the money needed for the trip.

Directions for Writing

Think about a place in Florida where you would like to go.

Now convince your classmates that your place is the best one.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 5
Test Code 0509
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has an idea of what career he or she would like to have when they become an adult.

Directions for Writing

Think about the career you would like to have when you become an adult.

Now explain why you would like to have the career you've chosen.

**Grade 5
Test Code 0510
P**

Writing Situation

Most schools don't allow candy or soda machines on campus. Many students would like to have candy or soda machines on campus.

Directions for Writing

Think about how you could convince the principal to install candy or soda machines at your school.

Now write to convince the principal that having candy or soda machines is a good idea for the school.

**Grade 5
Test Code 0511
E**

Writing Situation

People learn valuable lessons every day.

Directions for Writing

Think about a lesson you've learned that was valuable to you.

Now explain why the lesson you learned was valuable.

**Grade 5
Test Code 0512
P**

Writing Situation

Pretend that you are a Pilgrim in the year 1621 who has lived in the New World now for a year. You must choose to stay in the New World or to return to your native country, England.

Directions for Writing

Think about the decision to stay or leave the New World.

Now write to convince the reader that your decision to stay or leave the New World is a good one.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 6
Test Code 0601
E**

Writing Situation

Every student thinks about what job or profession he or she will have as an adult.

Directions for Writing

Think about the job or profession you want to have when you are an adult.

Now explain what that job or profession might be and why you chose it.

**Grade 6
Test Code 0602
P**

Writing Situation

Human beings tend to want things that they cannot necessarily afford.

Directions for Writing

Think about something important to you that you would like to buy but cannot afford.

Now persuade your parents that they should help you purchase the item.

**Grade 6
Test Code 0603
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has a special person that they would like to trade places with for one day.

Directions for Writing

Imagine that you could trade places with someone for one day. Think about whom you would pick and why you would trade places with him or her.

Now explain whom you would pick and why you would like to trade places with this person for one day.

**Grade 6
Test Code 0604
P**

Writing Situation

The newspaper is giving an award to the best school in Palm Beach County.

Directions for Writing

Think about the good things at your school and why it is the best school in Palm Beach County.

Now persuade the newspaper to pick your school as the best school in Palm Beach County.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 6
Test Code 0605
E**

Writing Situation

Most people dream about traveling to another country.

Directions for Writing

Think about a country you would want to travel to and why you would want to go there.

Now explain why you would want to travel to that country.

**Grade 6
Test Code 0606
P**

Writing Situation

The principal of your school is considering giving students free time during the school day.

Directions for Writing

Think about how you feel about students receiving free time during the school day.

Now write to persuade your principal why students should or should not have free time during the school day.

**Grade 6
Test Code 0607
E**

Writing Situation

There is no one formula for success. What works for some people doesn't work for others, and no two people seem to succeed in exactly the same way.

Directions for Writing

Think of someone whom you consider successful.

Now explain why this person has become successful.

**Grade 6
Test Code 0608
P**

Writing Situation

In some school districts throughout the United States, school boards are voting to keep schools open all year round.

Directions for Writing

Think about how you feel about schools being open all year round.

Now write to convince your school board to support your point of view.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 6
Test Code 0609
E**

Writing Situation

Challenges can be either physical (like climbing a mountain) or mental (like solving a difficult math problem).

Directions for Writing

Think of a challenge that you have faced.

Now explain what the challenge was and what you did to face this challenge.

**Grade 6
Test Code 0610
P**

Writing Situation

The sixth grade class at your school is planning a field trip. It could be to a museum, a zoo, or a nature preserve. The teacher is going to allow the students to help choose the field trip destination.

Directions for Writing

Think about where you would most like to go for the field trip.

Now write to convince your teacher that your choice would make the best school field trip.

**Grade 6
Test Code 0611
E**

Writing Situation

Imagine that you are an exchange student going to school in another country.

Directions for Writing

Think about what you would miss from your everyday life in the U.S.A.

Now explain what you would miss the most and why you would miss it.

**Grade 6
Test Code 0612
P**

Writing Situation

A school committee is seeking ideas to improve your school.

Directions for Writing

Think about one change you think needs to be made in order to improve your school.

Write to convince the school committee to accept your suggestions of a needed change.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 7
Test Code 0701
E**

Writing Situation

Most people have a TV show they particularly like. Sometimes they like it because of one of the actors, and sometimes they like it because of the story.

Directions for Writing

Think about a TV show you like.

Now explain what TV show you like and why you like it.

**Grade 7
Test Code 0702
P**

Writing Situation

The President is thinking about requiring public school students to wear uniforms.

Directions for Writing

Think about whether wearing uniforms is a good idea or a bad idea for your school and why.

Now convince the President to accept your point of view about wearing uniforms.

**Grade 7
Test Code 0703
E**

Writing Situation

We all have had a teacher that we really liked or from whom we learned a great deal.

Directions for Writing

Think about the teachers you have had and select the one that you liked the most or from whom you learned the most.

Now explain why you liked the teacher or how that teacher helped you learn.

**Grade 7
Test Code 0704
P**

Writing Situation

A fact of school life is the necessity of eating in the school cafeteria. There may be things that you would like to change about the cafeteria in your school.

Directions for Writing

Think about three specific changes you would like to make in your school cafeteria.

Now persuade your principal to make the three changes you are requesting.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 7
Test Code 0705
E**

Writing Situation

Standing up for what you think is right can take a lot of courage. There are people who will stand up for what is right, even when they must face conflict.

Directions for Writing

Think about someone you know who stood up for what was right.

Now explain why the person stood up for what was right.

**Grade 7
Test Code 0706
P**

Writing Situation

Your school district has decided to eliminate athletic programs (competition between schools).

Directions for Writing

Think about the advantages and disadvantages of athletic programs for students.

Write to persuade your school district to keep or eliminate athletic programs.

**Grade 7
Test Code 0707
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has a favorite time of day. For some people it is very early in the morning. For others it is sunset at the end of a long afternoon.

Directions for Writing

Think about your favorite time of day.

Now explain why it is your favorite time of day.

**Grade 7
Test Code 0708
P**

Writing Situation

The school district has a special telephone number called the "Homework Hotline" that students can call to speak with a teacher and get homework help.

Directions for Writing

Think of reasons why you would be for or against this "Homework Hotline."

Now write to convince readers to agree with your opinion about the "Homework Hotline."

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 7
Test Code 0709
E**

Writing Situation

Teens have a lot of problems that they have to sort through by themselves or with the help of friends, family, and the community.

Directions for Writing

Think about the biggest problem you think teens face today.

Now explain why you think the problem you chose is the biggest problem teens face today.

**Grade 7
Test Code 0710
P**

Writing Situation

In order to save money, the school board is considering canceling all field trips for the remainder of the year.

Directions for Writing

Think about the benefits of field trips and what students would lose by not having them.

Now write to convince the school board that students should be allowed to continue attending field trips.

**Grade 7
Test Code 0711
E**

Writing Situation

People read books throughout their lives.

Directions for Writing

Think about the best book you have ever read.

Now explain why this book was the best you ever read.

**Grade 7
Test Code 0712
P**

Writing Situation

Some parents believe that the school should limit the homework that teachers can assign. Teachers argue that homework is necessary.

Directions for Writing

Think about whether homework needs to be limited or not.

Write a letter to your principal to convince him or her to agree with your opinion as to whether homework should be limited.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 8
Test Code 0801
E**

Writing Situation

There are many kinds of music, and each of us has our favorite kind.

Directions for Writing

Think about the music that you listen to every day.

Now explain what kind of music is your favorite and why you like it.

**Grade 8
Test Code 0802
P**

Writing Situation

Students drop out of school for a variety of reasons.

Directions for Writing

Think about the many benefits of staying in school.

Now persuade a friend, who is considering dropping out, to stay in school.

**Grade 8
Test Code 0803
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has different personal qualities. People might enjoy being popular, accomplishing things, or being organized.

Directions for Writing

Think about which personal quality you might enjoy.

Now write to explain which personal quality you might enjoy having and why you chose that quality.

**Grade 8
Test Code 0804
P**

Writing Situation

Your student council has proposed a "TV-free week." For one week, students would avoid all television in order to spend time on other activities.

Directions for Writing

Think of the benefits this "TV-free week" would provide to the students of your school.

Now write a letter to convince the students of your school to accept the student council's proposal for a "TV-free week."

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 8
Test Code 0805
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has different ways of coping with hot weather.

Directions for Writing

Think about how you cope with the heat on hot summer days.

Now write to explain how you cope with the heat on hot summer days.

**Grade 8
Test Code 0806
P**

Writing Situation

The class is planning a performance for the end of the school year. The students are considering a talent show, a comedy, or a musical.

Directions for Writing

Think about the kind of show you think the class should put on and why.

Now write to convince your classmates that the show you chose is the best one for the class.

**Grade 8
Test Code 0807
E**

Writing Situation

People have tasks, jobs, or chores that they dislike.

Directions for Writing

Think about one of your tasks, jobs, or chores that you dislike.

Now explain why you dislike that task, job, or chore.

**Grade 8
Test Code 0808
P**

Writing Situation

You are on a committee to choose someone to speak at your school. It could be an entertainer, an athlete, an author, or someone you know.

Directions for Writing

Think about whom you would like to invite to speak at your school and why.

Now write to convince the committee to choose this person to speak at your school.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 8
Test Code 0809
E**

Writing Situation

The lottery is worth a lot of money. You have just won the lottery for one million dollars.

Directions for Writing

Think of ways in which you might spend the money.

Now explain how you would go about spending your one million dollars.

**Grade 8
Test Code 0810
P**

Writing Situation

Many items are bought and sold through advertisement. Advertisements offer sellers a way to persuade buyers to buy their products.

Directions for Writing

Think about an item that you have bought and why you bought it.

Now write to convince others to buy one like it.

**Grade 9
Test Code 0901
E**

Writing Situation

Most students wish they could change something about the school that they attend.

Directions for Writing

Think about changes you would make at your school.

Now explain what changes you would make at your school and why.

**Grade 9
Test Code 0902
P**

Writing Situation

There are many people who believe that students should be required to do a certain number of community service hours in order to graduate from high school.

Directions for Writing

Think about whether or not you think this is a good idea.

Now convince the reader to accept your point of view on whether students should be required to complete community service hours in order to graduate from high school.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 9
Test Code 0903
E**

Writing Situation

We all think about and try to plan for the future. As a student in school, you are probably concerned about your life after you finish high school.

Directions for Writing

Think about your plans for the future.

Now explain the plans you currently have for the future and those influences that have helped you to make those plans.

**Grade 9
Test Code 0904
P**

Writing Situation

Recently the government of the State of Florida has been considering establishing a curfew statewide.

Directions for Writing

Think about the effect a curfew would have on your life.

Now persuade your state senator or representative to accept your point of view on a state-imposed curfew.

**Grade 9
Test Code 0905
E**

Writing Situation

By the time we reach high school, at least one teacher has had a positive effect on our lives.

Directions for Writing

Think of a teacher who has had a positive effect on your life.

Now explain why this teacher has had a positive effect on your life.

**Grade 9
Test Code 0906
P**

Writing Situation

The principal of your school must decide whether students should be required to take final exams.

Directions for Writing

Think about the effect the principal's decision on taking final exams will have on students.

Now write to convince your principal to accept your point of view on whether students need to take final exams.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 9
Test Code 0907
E**

Writing Situation

Pretend your class is putting together a time capsule. It will not be opened by anyone for 100 years. This time capsule will tell people in the future what life was like today.

Directions for Writing

Think about something you would put in a time capsule that you would want the world to see 100 years from now.

Now explain why you chose the item to go in the time capsule.

**Grade 9
Test Code 0908
P**

Writing Situation

You would like to propose a new national holiday. You anticipate that there might be people who don't agree with your idea.

Directions for Writing

Think about the new national holiday that you would like to propose.

Now write to convince others of the need for this new national holiday.

**Grade 9
Test Code 0909
E**

Writing Situation

Everyone has an activity that they enjoy. It might be playing instruments, a sport, or some other activity.

Directions for Writing

Think about what you like to do.

Now explain what activity you enjoy the most and why you like this activity so well.

**Grade 9
Test Code 0910
P**

Writing Situation

The U.S. Postal Service has honored many individuals by placing their portraits on postage stamps.

Directions for Writing

Think of someone, real or fictional, whom you would like to see honored on a U.S. postage stamp.

Now write to persuade the U.S. Postal Service that your choice is a good one.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
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**Grade 10
Test Code 1001
E**

Writing Situation

Leaders have many responsibilities. As a leader, one must possess characteristics that will enable him/her to successfully fulfill his/her duties.

Directions for Writing

Think about the characteristics that a person must possess to be a successful leader.

Now explain the characteristics that you think a person must possess in order to be a successful leader.

**Grade 10
Test Code 1002
P**

Writing Situation

A reporter for the local newspaper's business page wants to write an article introducing a new product that you have developed.

Directions for Writing

Think about your new product and why people will want to buy it.

Now write to convince people to buy your new product.

**Grade 10
Test Code 1003
E**

Writing Situation

You have been given an opportunity to spend the day with anyone of your own choosing. That person might be a famous celebrity, a family member, a friend, or just someone you know.

Directions for Writing

Think about the person with whom you would choose to spend the day.

Now explain why you chose this particular person with whom to spend the day.

**Grade 10
Test Code 1004
P**

Writing Situation

The legislature is considering enacting a new law that would make it illegal to use a cell phone while driving.

Directions for Writing

Think about your opinion of whether or not cell phones should be used while driving.

Now write a letter to a legislator persuading him or her to vote according to your opinion.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 10
Test Code 1005
E**

Writing Situation

In the past few years, there has been an increase in violence reported on school grounds.

Directions for Writing

Think of some possible reasons for the recent increase in school violence.

Now explain why you think there has been an increase in school violence in recent years.

**Grade 10
Test Code 1006
P**

Writing Situation

High school students are required to complete community service.

Directions for Writing

Think about whether or not you believe this is a good idea.

Now write to convince the reader why you agree or disagree with requiring high school students to complete community service.

**Grade 10
Test Code 1007
E**

Writing Situation

You have been asked by the principal of your school to discuss with a parent group, the effect that watching TV has on students' grades.

Directions for Writing

Think about the effect that watching TV has on students' grades and your friends' grades.

Now write to explain to the parents the effect that watching TV has on grades.

**Grade 10
Test Code 1008
P**

Writing Situation

Imagine that your school district has proposed saving money by eliminating sports (baseball, football, and basketball) from the high school program.

Directions for Writing

Think about the possible effects of eliminating sports from the high school program.

Now write to convince the school district to accept your point of view about eliminating sports from the high school program.

**Palm Beach Writes Prompts
2010-2011**

**Grade 10
Test Code 1009
E**

Writing Situation

People learn important things in school and in life. These valuable lessons are ones that have lasting effects and are easily remembered.

Directions for Writing

Think about the most valuable lesson you have learned.

Write to explain this lesson and tell why it is important and valuable to you.

**Grade 10
Test Code 1010
P**

Writing Situation

Some members of the School Board think that students are not learning enough in school, and that students need to spend more time in school. Other members of the School Board think that lengthening the school year will leave students without important experiences that are not learned in school.

Directions for Writing

Think about the two opinions concerning lengthening the school year.

Now write to convince the School Board to accept your opinion concerning lengthening the school year.