



Compton USD Learning Packet

Middle School ELD

**English Language
Development (ELD)**



MIDDLE SCHOOL-ELD Learning Packet

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JUSTIFY AN OPINION-PLANNING TEMPLATE (DAY 1)

WRITING PROMPT: The teachers in your school have decided they will not give homework for the whole school year.

Do you think that it is a good idea for teachers to stop giving homework? Write at least one paragraph in support of your opinion to give to your principal. Make sure you write at least three sentences and include your opinion and supporting reasons.

1. MAKE A CHOICE

Do you think that it is a good idea for teachers to stop giving homework?

YES

NO

2. STATE YOUR OPINION (SENTENCE 1)

I believe/In my opinion _____ _____.
--

3. Give at least two reasons to support your opinion.

REASON #1 (SENTENCE 2)	REASON #1 (SENTENCE 3)
First, _____	Also, _____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

4. Closing Sentence (Optional): In closing, _____
_____.

WRITING Justify an Opinion

In this task type, students write an essay about a school-related issue as if they will give it to a school principal. Students provide their position along with appropriate supporting reasons.

Aligned 2012 ELD Standards: PI.C.11, PI.C.12, PII.A.1, PII.B.3, PII.B.4, PII.B.5, PII.C.6

Rubric

Score	Descriptors
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The response successfully expresses an opinion (grades three through five) or states a position (grades six through twelve) and provides relevant and detailed support. The response is readily coherent. Grammar and word choice are varied and effective. Minor errors in spelling and punctuation may be present but do not impede meaning. For grades three through five: The response includes at least two reasons that support the opinion using three or more sentences. For grades six through twelve: The response includes at least two reasons that support the position using six or more sentences. For grades nine through twelve: Register is appropriate.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The response expresses an opinion or states a position with some relevant support. The response is generally coherent. Errors and limitations in grammar and word choice may impede meaning in some sentences. Errors in spelling and punctuation minimally impede meaning. For grades three through five: The response includes at least one reason that supports the opinion using two sentences. For grades six through twelve: The response includes at least one reason that supports the position using three or more sentences. For grades nine through twelve: Register is mostly appropriate.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The response expresses an opinion or states a position with some relevant support but is not complete. The response is somewhat coherent. Errors and limitations in grammar and word choice impede meaning. For grades three through five: The response includes at least one sentence. For grades six through twelve: The response includes at least two sentences. For grades nine through twelve: Register is somewhat appropriate.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The response does not include a clear opinion or position and/or conveys little relevant information. The response lacks coherence. Frequent errors and/or severe limitations in grammar and word choice prevent expression of opinion or position. For grades three through five: The response may consist of isolated words or phrases. For grades six through twelve: The response may consist only of one sentence or of isolated words or phrases. For grades nine through twelve: Register may not be appropriate.
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response contains no English, does not relate to the prompt, or includes only "I don't know."

You are going to write at least one paragraph in English about an important issue.

- Think about what you will write before you begin writing.
- State your opinion clearly and give two or more reasons to support your opinion.
- The paragraph should include at least three complete sentences.
- Check your writing for correct grammar, capital letters, punctuation, and spelling.
- Do not write outside the box. Please write neatly.

The teachers in your school have decided they will not give homework for the whole school year.

Do you think that it is a good idea for teachers to stop giving homework? Write at least one paragraph in support of your opinion to give to your principal. Make sure you write at least three sentences and include your opinion and supporting reasons.



READING Read a Literary Passage

In this task type, students read a literary passage. Students then answer six questions about the passage.

Aligned 2012 ELD Standards: PI.B.6, PI.B.7, PI.B.8, PII.A.1, PII.A.2

Read the story. Answer Numbers 11 through 16.

- 1 “How was school today, Ethan?” Ethan’s mom asked as he climbed into the car. She was always curious to know about his day.
- 2 “Fine,” Ethan muttered as he began rummaging through his bag. He never really understood what he was supposed to tell her. It had been a perfectly ordinary day at school.
- 3 “What did you do?” she asked again, trying to start a conversation.
- 4 “Nothing,” Ethan replied, now barely listening. He had already turned his attention to the three text messages awaiting him on his phone.
- 5 Ethan’s mom sighed. “I’m pretty sure that I wasn’t this distracted when I was your age,” she remarked. “Your grandmother and I used to have actual conversations.”
- 6 “Huh?” Ethan asked. He hadn’t really been listening.
- 7 “Nothing,” his mother replied sadly as she started the car and drove slowly away from the school.
- 8 Ten minutes later, Ethan finally looked up from his phone. “What are we doing here?” he asked, noticing they were at a supermarket he had never been to before.
- 9 “Grandma is coming over for dinner tonight and this is the recipe for her favorite raspberry cheesecake,” Ethan’s mom said as she pulled a piece of paper out of her purse. “I know this place will have all the ingredients we’ll need. I thought you could help me find the ingredients and then help me make it.”
- 10 Ethan groaned. He hated grocery shopping, and the idea of spending all afternoon baking instead of playing his favorite video game was not particularly appealing. However, he knew his grandmother would love the cheesecake, so he reluctantly agreed.
- 11 Surprisingly, Ethan enjoyed finding the ingredients, and, as he helped his mom in the kitchen when they got home, he realized that he was actually having fun. Ethan enjoyed measuring all of the ingredients while his mom prepared the baking trays. While all of this was happening, the two actually talked, and Ethan remembered several interesting things from school that had happened that day. It was great to see his grandmother again at dinner too. It had been several weeks since Ethan had last seen her, and he realized that he had a lot to tell her.

- 12 “Wow, Ethan, I don’t think I’ve heard you speak this much in a long time,” Ethan’s mom teased as she brought out the raspberry cheesecake that she and Ethan had prepared.
- 13 “Well, look who’s talking, Norah!” Ethan’s grandmother said gently to his mother. “When you were Ethan’s age, you used to spend your whole life in your room! And when I asked you how school was, you’d just shrug or say nothing.”
- 14 Ethan’s mother turned pink. “That’s not true!” she protested.
- 15 “In fact,” Ethan’s grandmother winked at Ethan, “I had to get her to help me make this very raspberry cheesecake to even get her to talk to me.”
- 16 From the other side of the room, Ethan’s phone beeped. But Ethan realized that this conversation with his mother and grandmother was much more interesting.
-

11 What is the main theme of the story?

- A Learning about ancestors can be interesting.
 - B Working hard at something can be very rewarding.
 - C Enjoying activities together can make relationships stronger.
 - D Technology can make it easier to keep in touch with friends.
-

12 What word best describes Ethan’s attitude at the beginning of the story?

- A disappointed
- B independent
- C confident
- D distant

13 Why does Ethan’s mother sigh in paragraph 5?

- A She is frustrated that Ethan is not talking to her.
- B She is annoyed that Ethan brought his phone to school.
- C She is unhappy because she misses Ethan’s grandmother.
- D She is tired and not looking forward to driving for a long time.

14 What can be inferred about Ethan during the car ride to the supermarket?

- A He was looking forward to baking with his mom.
- B He was expecting to go to a new supermarket.
- C He spent the whole time using his phone.
- D He was listening to music on his phone.

15 Why is paragraph 11 important to the story?

- A It serves to change the tone of the story.
- B It identifies a conflict between the characters.
- C It creates suspense by placing the characters in an unfamiliar environment.
- D It provides more information about an idea mentioned in the previous paragraph.

16 What does Ethan’s grandmother MOST LIKELY mean when she says, “Well, look who’s talking,” to Ethan’s mother?

- A She is informing Ethan’s mother that Ethan is talking.
- B She is reminding Ethan’s mother that she used to be like Ethan.
- C She is telling Ethan’s mother not to interrupt when Ethan is speaking.
- D She is agreeing with Ethan’s mother that Ethan does not talk very much.

READING Read an Informational Passage

In this task type, students read an informational passage. Students then answer six questions about the passage. For this Practice Test, there are only five questions included.

Aligned 2012 ELD Standards: PI.B.6, PI.B.7, PI.B.8, PII.A.1, PII.A.2

Read the text. Answer Numbers 17 through 21.

Today, voting for government officials is a special right shared by United States citizens who are eighteen years old and older. Each person can vote only once in an election, and voting is done in secret. That means voters do not have to tell anyone who they voted for. Although some practices remain the same, some voting practices have changed over time.

A long time ago, in order to vote, you had to be male and own land. This meant that only a small group of men could vote. Over time, the right to vote was extended to more and more people. This happened because of the hard work of people like Martin Luther King, Jr. and Susan B. Anthony. With more people voting, new practices were needed.

Years ago voting looked very different than it does today. For many years, voting was not done in secret. Voters had meetings at public buildings. They would raise their hands or voices to show who they wanted to vote for. In some cases, voters would line up on different sides of a room to show who they were voting for.

Today, voters go to polling sites where they can vote. In some states, voters mark their choices on paper slips, called ballots. Some people even send in their ballot by mail. In other places, paper ballots have been replaced with voting machines. As new technologies are created, voting will probably continue to change.

17 What is the main idea of the text?

- A United States citizens who are adults can vote.
- B Voting practices have changed over time.
- C More people are voting than ever before.
- D Technology will allow people to vote in different ways.

18 Read this sentence from paragraph 2.

Over time, the right to vote was extended to more and more people.

What does the word extended MOST LIKELY mean in the sentence?

- A continued
- B straightened
- C given
- D shown

19 Why does the author mention Martin Luther King, Jr. and Susan B. Anthony?

- A They were part of a small group of voters.
- B They worked hard to win elections.
- C They invented the secret ballot.
- D They helped many people become voters.

20 Which sentence from the text BEST describes how people voted in the past?

- A Although some practices remain the same, some voting practices have changed over time.
- B With more people voting, new practices were needed.
- C They would raise their hands or voices to show who they wanted to vote for.
- D In other places, paper ballots have been replaced with voting machines.

21

First, read the definitions of the word mark.

mark v. **1.** to indicate a location **2.** to make a symbol or word **3.** to assign a grade **4.** to celebrate

Then read this sentence from paragraph 4.

In some states, voters mark their choices on paper slips, called ballots.

What definition best matches the meaning of mark as it is used in the sentence?

- A** definition 1
- B** definition 2
- C** definition 3
- D** definition 4