

8th Grade Informational ‘On-Demand’ Assessment Writing Prompt

Note:

- During “on-demand” assessments students should be at their regular writing seats and supplied with paper. Students should also have access to additional pages if needed.
- Teachers can post the prompt and read it aloud.
- Do **not** give the students a checklist during the pre-test, **only** during post-test.

Informational on-demand prompt:

Day Prior to Assessment:

Say to Students:

“Think of a topic that you have prior knowledge of and that interests you significantly. As a writer, you will use a compare/contrast structure in an informational essay to consider how things are both alike and different. You will explain and explore the two sides of a **critical issue in society** by comparing and contrasting the two perspectives on the issue. If you want to find and use information from a book or another outside source to help you with this writing, you may bring that with you tomorrow. Please keep in mind that you’ll need to plan, draft, revise, and edit in one session.”

Day of Assessment:

“Today you will have forty-five minutes to write your paper. You will write an informational essay explaining and exploring the two sides of a **critical issue in society** by comparing and contrasting the two perspectives on the issue. If you brought an information book or another outside source to help you with this writing, you may use it today. Please keep in mind that you’ll need to plan, draft, revise and edit in one session.”

Additional:

“In your writing, make sure you:

- write an introduction,
- elaborate with a variety of information,
- organize your writing,
- use transition words, and
- write a conclusion.”