Sample FWP Prompts 2016, 2015

Write about something that gives you a reason to write. What your writing will look like: You shall discover an organization that suits both your purpose for writing and the content of what you write.

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For this essay consider some of the experiences that have shaped you to date. What kind of person, son, daughter, student are you and how did you get here? Primary research is your main focus.

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 Writing is much more than putting words on a paper.  Explain a unique experience or attitude you have had with writing in the larger sense.  What made it valuable for you?  Why should your audience care about it?   Wow us with smoothness and clarity.

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For this project you will be teaming up in groups of two and exploring the pivotal concepts of happiness, success, purpose or meaning in human life. Your project will argue in support of a specific hypothesis, using high-quality research to support your views. The paper should also analyze philosophical or cultural ideas that have influenced your views about these concepts.

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This project’s broad focus is education in general.  Your challenge is to identify a relatively narrow topic within that broad focus that you’re curious about and to which you have some personal connection.  As we work through the readings and videos during the first half of the term, reflect on your own experiences in school and how they have shaped you, for better or for worse.  Identify a subtopic related to education that intrigues you enough to sustain you through a process of investigation.  From your personal POV, what’s right and what’s wrong about our educational system?

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Write about a person or group of people who has/have been important in your life and who has/have in some way influenced you. This could be in either a negative or positive fashion. Your purpose is to create a vivid portrait of the person so that readers will have a good idea of what the person or group of people is/are like. Your readers will want to be able to see the person or group of people, both through your descriptions and through anecdotes and/or habitual actions that say something about the person's or the group’s character. Others in the class will also be interested in what you think or feel about this person or group of people, which might be another way of saying how this person influenced your life.

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Write a profile of something outside your head that you think would interest other students in this class. But it should first be of interest to you. We know that when writers are interested in what they are investigating and writing about, they not only write better, but they also make what they write more interesting for their readers.

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Choose one of the multi-faceted environmental issues we have been exploring in class, or another related to environmental justice, and do two things: 1. Describe, as objectively as possible, the various sides/thoughts/beliefs about the issue and 2. Analyze the rhetoric that each side employs to convince people that their side is the right one. If the issue doesn't have more than one side, you need to find a different issue.

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