

Grade 4 Second Prompt

Expository Writing a Summary

English/Language Arts Content Standards:

- 1.0 Writing Strategies
- 2.0 Writing Applications (Genres and Their Characteristics)
- 2.4 Write summaries that contain the main ideas of the reading selection and the most significant details.

Writing Situation

Summary writing is a strategy to help you understand and remember. Summaries are also a good way to communicate information in a general way. When writing a summary, you select only the most important ideas from the material that you read. Next, you combine these ideas into a clear and simple, one-paragraph mini-report. (Allow an opportunity for discussion.)

Directions for Writing

Read the selection “The Solar System.” Be sure to think about the main ideas of the message as you read. Make notes of the important details in order to help you summarize the article. Write a summary of the selection.

Writing Conventions

For this writing task, students will write a summary that:

- a. contains the main ideas of the reading selection.
- b. includes the most significant details.
- c. uses fluid and legible cursive or joined italic.
- d. demonstrates grade-level appropriate sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.

Resources:

Reading/Language Arts Framework for California Public Schools, pp. 115 –116

Writers Express Handbook, pp. 216 – 219, 237 – 242

Writers Express Lessons and Assessments, pp. 50 – 53

Writers Express Program Guide, The Forms of Writing, pp. 141 – 147, *Reading-Writing Connection*, p. 13

Grade 4 Second Prompt Rubric

Expository Writing a Summary

4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Fully addresses the prompt.▪ Is clearly organized in a logical sequence that contains the main ideas of the reading selection and the most significant details.▪ Is a single or multi-paragraph composition with a topic sentence, necessary facts and details, and a concluding sentence.▪ Has a variety of sentence patterns that include compound and complex sentences.▪ Has effectiveness and variety of word choice.▪ Has descriptive language that includes the most significant details from the selection in the writer's own words.▪ Has grade-level appropriate spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation; contains few, if any, errors that do not interfere with understanding the writing.▪ Has fluid, legible handwriting using cursive or joined italic.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Responds to the prompt.▪ Is organized in a logical sequence.▪ Is a single or multi-paragraph composition that may include a topic sentence, necessary facts and details, and concluding sentence.▪ Has more than one sentence pattern that include compound and complex sentences.▪ Has some variety in word choice.▪ Has some descriptive language and significant details from the selection in the writer's own words.▪ Has mainly grade-level appropriate spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation; contains some errors that do not interfere with understanding the writing.▪ Has legible cursive or joined italic handwriting with appropriate spacing and most letters formed correctly.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Attempts to respond to the prompt.▪ May lack organization.▪ May lack proper paragraphing.▪ Contains mainly one sentence pattern; may use some compound sentences.▪ May have little or no variety in word choice.▪ May contain a list of details some of which may be copied from the selection.▪ May contain many errors in spelling, grammar, capitalization, and/or punctuation that may interfere with understanding the writing.▪ Has handwriting that is difficult to read with errors that may interfere with meaning.

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ May not respond to the prompt. (May be off topic.)▪ Lacks organization.▪ Lacks paragraphing.▪ Has mainly incomplete and/or incoherent sentences.▪ Contains mainly basic sight words.▪ May contain some details that may be extensively copied from the selection.▪ May contain frequent and numerous errors in spelling, grammar, capitalization, and punctuation that interfere with the understanding of the writing.▪ Handwriting may be mostly illegible.
BP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Blank Paper

Grade 4
Second Prompt - Student Page

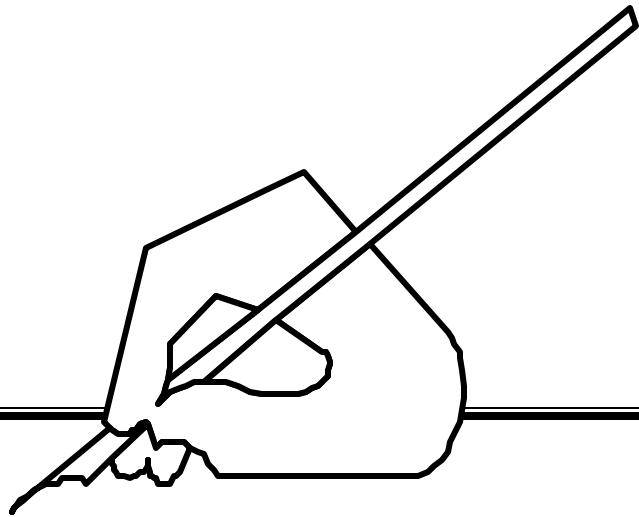
Expository
Writing a Summary

Writing Situation

Summary writing is a strategy to help you understand and remember. Summaries are also a good way to communicate information in a general way. When writing a summary, you select only the most important ideas from the material that you read. Next, you combine these ideas into a clear and simple, one-paragraph mini-report.

Directions for Writing

Read the selection “The Solar System.” Be sure to think about the main ideas of the message as you read. Make notes of the important details in order to help you summarize the article. Write a summary of the selection.



Writing Conventions

For this writing task, you will write a summary that:

- a. contains the main ideas of the reading selection.
- b. includes the most significant details.
- c. uses fluid and legible cursive or joined italic.
- d. demonstrates grade-level appropriate sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.

Grade 4
Second Prompt
Writing a Summary
The Solar System

The sun and those objects that orbit around the sun make up the solar system. An orbit is the path an object takes as it moves around another object in space. All planets, including Earth, orbit the sun.

Earth is one of the nine planets in the solar system. A planet is a large body of rock or gas that orbits the sun. In addition to the planets, the solar system has many moons. Moons are large, rocky objects that orbit planets. Planets may have no moons or many moons. Earth has only one moon.

The sun, which is a star, or a hot ball of glowing gasses, is the center of the solar system. It is much closer to us than other stars are, so the sun looks different to us. The sun is very hot and bright.

The sun is also huge. All of the planets and moons of the solar system could fit inside the sun. Since the sun is so large, its gravity is very strong. Gravity is the force of one object's pull on another. It is the sun's gravity that helps to hold the objects in the solar system in orbit.

The planets are divided into two groups. The *inner planets* are those closest to the sun. They are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. These four planets have several similarities. They all have rocky surfaces. None of them has more than two moons. Since they are closer to the sun, they are warmer than the other five, which are called the *outer planets*. The inner planets are also smaller than the outer planets.

The five outer planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. They are farthest from the sun and are made mostly of frozen gases. Their surfaces are much colder than the inner planets. Most of the outer planets have many moons.

Pluto is the only outer planet that is smaller than the inner planets. In fact, it not only is the smallest planet in the solar system, it is smaller than Earth's moon.

The Important Details are:

all planets including Earth orbit the sun. The sun is a star that is bright & hot. It is the center of our solar system. The sun is so huge all the planets & moon can fit inside. There are two groups outer & inner planets.

The inner planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth & Mars. The outer planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, & Pluto. Our solar system is a big place.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Second Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 4 anchor

Characteristics that make the paper an anchor 4:

- a. Contains a variety of sentence structures.
- b. Fully addresses the prompt.
- c. Is clearly organized in a logical sequence.
- d. Lacks a concluding sentence.

Additional instructional steps for the writer's growth would include:

- a. Modeling how to write a concluding sentence.

Teacher Notes:

Summary

This article is about objects in the solar system. Different objects that orbit around the sun make up the solar system. There are nine planets in the solar system, and the solar system has many moons. The sun is in the middle of the solar system. The solar system stays on the sun, the sun's gravity helps hold the objects in the solar system in orbit. The planets are separated into

two groups. The group closer to the sun are called inner planets and the planet farthest away from the sun are called the outer planets. Pluto is the only outer planet that is smaller than the inner planets.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Second Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 4 low

Characteristics that make the paper a low 4:

- a. Fully addresses the prompt.
- b. Contains complete, complex sentences.
- c. Has variety of sentence patterns.
- d. Has fluid, legible cursive.
- e. Contains good use of possessives.
- f. Good organization of ideas.
- g. Lacks proper paragraphs.

Additional instructional steps for the writer's growth would include:

- a. Reviewing the elements and structure of a paragraph.

Teacher Notes:

The Solar System

My article is about the Solar System. It was written by Anna Carrells.

All planets circle around the sun. Some planets have moons some do not. The sun is a huge star made of glowing gasses. The sun is very large and has a strong gravity. There are four inner planets which are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. The rest of the five planets are called the outer planets which are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto. These five planets are mostly made of frozen gasses. Pluto is the only outer planet that is smaller than the inner planets. Pluto is even smaller than Earth's moon.

If you like to learn about the Solar System, then I suggest you to read about it.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Second Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 3 high

Characteristics that make the paper a high 3:

- a. Responds to the prompt.
- b. Has complex, complete sentences.
- c. Contains grade-level appropriate grammar and punctuation.
- d. Contains a good organization of ideas.
- e. Has legible cursive handwriting.
- f. Not enough space between words.
- g. Lacks proper capitalization.

Additional instructional steps for the writer's growth would include:

- a. Reviewing the rules for capitalization and practicing how to look for errors in his/her writing.
- b. Instructing the student on the appropriate spacing between words and sentences.

Teacher Notes:

The center of our solar system is the sun. Each planet orbits around the sun. The planets are Earth, Venus, Mercury, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune. There are two differences between the planets are the inner planets and the outer. The inner planets are Earth, Venus, Mercury, and Mars. The outer planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune and Pluto. There is also about the inner system. The inner planets are closer to the sun, hotter, mostly rocky, and has two or less moons. The outer are farther from the sun, mostly bigger, than the inner planets, mostly gas giants. Lots of moons for Pluto. The Sun is a large star. The Sun also has lots of gravity it holds the planets to orbit in place.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Second Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 3 anchor

Characteristics that make the paper an anchor 3:

- a. Responds to prompt.
- b. Contains complete sentences.
- c. Has legible cursive.
- d. Has very few misspelled words.
- e. Includes the significant details.
- f. Needs to vary sentence beginnings.
- g. Lacks consistency in verb tense.

Additional instructional steps for the writer's growth would include:

- a. Modeling a variety of ways to begin sentences.
- b. Teaching the student to stay in the same verb tense throughout the entire essay.

Teacher Notes:

Summary
This article is about
objects in the solar system.

The sun is one of the nine
planets. In the solar system
there is many moons. The
sun is a star or a hot ball
of glowing gases. It's the
sun. Gravity that helps to hold
the objects in the solar system.

The planets are divided into
two groups. They are called the
inner planets and the outer
planets.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Second Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 3 low

Characteristics that make the paper a low 3:

- a. Responds to the prompt.
- b. Has legible cursive handwriting.
- c. Contains a few misspelled words that don't interfere with meaning.
- d. Contains complete sentences.
- e. Needs more than one sentence structure.
- f. Lacks proper paragraphing.

Additional instructional steps for the writer's growth would include:

- a. Demonstrating for the student how to use proper paragraphing.
- b. Modeling for the student how to develop complex sentences.

Teacher Notes:

Solar System Summary
Nine small planets orbit the sun. The nine planets are in two separate groups. Outer planets are far from the sun. The inner are not because they are close to the sun. The sun's gravity is so strong it holds the planets in the orbit. Earth is one of the inner planets, and it is one of the closest planets to the sun. The Earth is a big planet made of rock. Planets have huge rocky bodies made of gases.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Second Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 2 high

Characteristics that make the paper a high 2:

- a. Responds to the prompt.
- b. Includes correct comma usage.
- c. Contains details from selection, some of which is copied from the selection.
- d. Many errors in capitalization.
- e. Lacks organization.
- f. Lacks cursive handwriting.

Additional instructional steps for the writer's growth would include:

- a. Reviewing the rules for capitalization and practicing how to look for errors in his/her writing.
- b. Reviewing the formation of cursive letters.
- c. Demonstrating for the student how to use proper paragraphing.
- d. Teaching the student some prewriting techniques and structure.

Teacher Notes:

The Solar System

All planets, including Earth, orbit the Sun. Earth is one of the nine planets in the solar system.

A planet is a large body of rock or gas that orbits the sun. The sun, which is a star, is very hot and big, and its gravity is very strong.

The four inner planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. The five outer planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto.

In fact, it is not only the smallest planet in the solar system, it is smaller than Earth's moon.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Third Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 2 anchor

Characteristics that make the paper an anchor 2:

- a. Responds to the prompt.
- b. Contains details from selection.
- c. Contains compound sentences.
- d. Lacks organization.
- e. Has legible cursive handwriting with errors in letter formation.
- f. Lacks proper paragraphing.
- g. Many errors in spelling.

Additional instructional steps for the writer's growth would include:

- a. Reviewing cursive letter formation.
- b. Demonstrating for the student how to use proper paragraphing.
- c. Teaching the student to look at the article to check the spelling of key words.

Teacher Notes:

The story is about space.
The sun and those objects that
orbit around the sun make up
the solar system. An orbit
is the path an object takes
as it moves around another
object in space. All planets
including earth orbit the sun.
There are nine planets. Their
names are africa, antarctica,
asia, australia, europe north,
america south, ^{and} america. The
sun is also huge. The planets
are divided into two groups.
Planets may have no moons
or moons.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Second Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 2 low

Characteristics that make the paper a low 2:

- a. Has legible cursive handwriting.
- b. Responds to the prompt, but contains errors in information.
- c. Contains details, some of which are copied from the selection.
- d. Contains capitalization errors.
- e. Contains spelling errors.

Additional instructional steps for the writer's growth would include:

- a. Teaching the student to look at the article to check for accuracy of information/details.
- b. Reviewing cursive letter formations.
- c. Reviewing the rules for capitalization and practicing how to look for errors in his/her writing.

Teacher Notes:

The story is about space.
The sun and those objects that
orbit around the sun make up
the solar system. An orbit
is the path an object takes
as it moves around another
object in space. All planets
including earth orbit the sun.
There are nine planets. Their
names are africa, antarctica,
asia, australia, europe north,
america south, ^{and} america. The
sun is also huge. The planets
are divided into two groups.
Planets may have no moons
or moons.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Second Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 1 high

Characteristics that make the paper a high 1:

- a. Contains mainly basic sight words.
- b. Has cursive handwriting with errors in letter formation.
- c. Lacks details.
- d. Contains numerous capitalization errors.

Additional instructional steps for the writer's growth would include:

- a. Reviewing the rules capitalization and practicing how to look for errors in his/her writing.
- b. Reviewing cursive letter formations.
- c. Conferencing with the student to identify important details from an article and then showing how to include those details in a summary.

Teacher Notes:

the solar system

the solar system

is above the earth

the center is

the sun.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Second Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 1 anchor

Characteristics that make the paper an anchor 1:

- a. Has some details.
- b. Contains numerous misspelled words that interfere with meaning.
- c. Has incoherent sentences.
- d. Has writing that is mostly illegible.
- e. Consists of incomplete sentences.

Additional instructional steps for the writer's growth would include:

- a. Reviewing the formation of cursive letters.
- b. Teaching the elements and structure of a summary.

Teacher Notes:

The after gas mean the sun.
Further from the sun. Mostly larger
than the inner planets. Mostly frozen
gases. Closer to the sun, hotter.
Mostly rocky. Pluto is smaller
than the sun. The after gas mean
the sun and the after one is
half the size. This is 1/24
sun in a day.

District Writing Sample Scoring Rationale

Second Prompt, Grade 4

Expository

Writing a Summary

Rubric Score Point: 1 low

Characteristics that make the paper a low 1:

- a. Contains incomplete and incoherent sentences.
- b. Writing is mostly illegible.
- c. Has numerous misspelled words that interfere with meaning.

Additional instructional steps to support this writer:

- c. Reviewing the formation of cursive letters.
- d. Teaching the elements and structure of a summary.

Teacher Notes:

Salas System

That's was a problem for the
system my and the cause is salas
system. da my and there town, the
sam. This and my and it is went