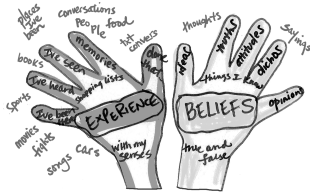


## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

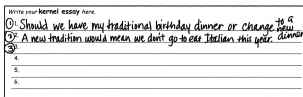
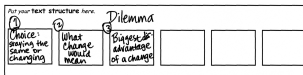
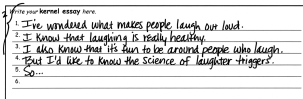
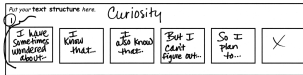


**Two hands**—the graphic demonstrating the two most basic kinds of text: knowledge and experience. Readers are most interested in pieces that include both kinds of text. For further reading, check Thomas Newkirk's *The School Essay Manifesto*.

**Text structure**—the plan, or path, that a piece will follow; it must involve at least one step from each of the two hands, above, in order to track movement of the mind, showing what you know and how you know it.

Other than that one requirement, text structures can be revised in any way that works for the writing situation. These can be created intentionally by a writer or gleaned from other writers. For ease of discussion, we place these

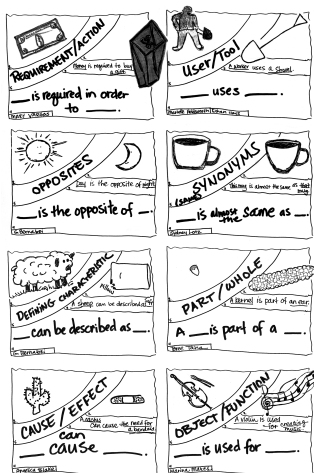
steps into sequenced boxes. For further reading, see Aristotle's *Rhetoric* and Quintilian's *Institutes of Oratory*.



**Kernel essay**—A writer writes about the topic, using the text structure as a guide, creating one sentence per box. These sentences are called a *kernel essay*. The next step is for the writer to read the kernel essay aloud to several listeners to see whether that structure worked for the topic. For further reading, see Gretchen Bernabei's *Reviving the Essay*.

**Guided kernel essay**—The teacher doesn't show the students the structure ahead of time; instead, she leads them through writing a kernel essay by phrasing each step of a structure as a question and giving them time to write an answer in one sentence. As each question is read, she draws the box for that step on the blackboard (or some other visual display), until the entire text structure is visible.

**Truisms**—also called thematic statements, or life lessons. These are statements that are true for most people. (This makes them debatable.) Sentences are most useful when written in third person, as general truisms about the world or about life. If students write second-person sentences, or imperative sentences, like "Don't judge other people," help them convert them to third person: "It's difficult not to judge other people," for example. If students write first-person sentences, like "I love my dog," help them convert them to third person: "People love their dogs," for example. For information about the use of maxims in classical oratory, see Aristotle's *Rhetoric*. For contemporary resources, google "truisms" or Gretchen Bernabei's *Lightning in a Bottle*.



**Obvious infoshot**—a sentence using the template pattern sentences from the infoshots analogy page, in order to add information to a piece of writing. (I like my dog. **My dog can be described as playful. He can be described as huge.**)

**Sneaky infoshot**—the use of the template pattern sentences, combined into the piece in such a way that the reader doesn't recognize the original template pattern sentences. (I like my **playful, huge** dog.)

**Expanded infoshot**—one template pattern sentence, explained. After the explanation is written, the original template sentence can be deleted. (~~My dog can be described as playful.~~ Whenever I come into the room, he runs up with a chew toy in his mouth, hoping for a game of catch.) For developing your own infoshots pattern sentences, google SAT analogy patterns.

Three	<p>French toast is the opposite of hamburgers.</p> <p>French toast can be described as amazingsness.</p> <p>French toast changes lives!</p>
One	<p>As opposed to a hamburger, the amazing French toast can definitely change your life.</p> <p>—Betsy K., grade 8</p>

**Three-in-one infoshot**—a two-step operation: you write three different obvious infoshots and then combine them into one sneaky infoshot. These are useful for infusing information into a piece of writing or for thesis statements. For sentence-combining practice, see Don and Jenny Killgallon's *Sentence Combining*. For powerful, focused grammatical “brushstrokes,” see Harry Noden's *Image Grammar*.



**Quick list of memories**—the process of listing different individual short memories of different kinds, to use as an idea source for writing personal narratives. Memories should be moments, not long periods of time; the quick list asks students about specific categories (like proud moments; moments involving birds, insects, reptiles; bad hair moments; postcard moments you hope to remember). For more information, see Paula Brock's *Nudges*.

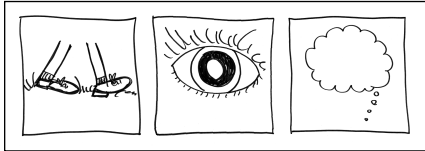


**Gritty life quick list**—the process of listing different kinds of (non-narrative) thoughts a person has in his or her head at any given moment, to use as an idea source for writing any kind of writing. For background pedagogy and inspiration, see James Moffett's *Teaching the Universe of Discourse*.

[illegible]

**Indelible moment**—the process of capturing a significant memory, especially through different kinds of writing paper that trigger memories and situational contexts. For the seeds of this idea, see Tom Romano's *Blending Genre, Altering Style*.








**Ba-da-bing**—one example of detail-combining using a sequence of icons to represent the sequence of text showing where your feet were, what your eye saw, and what you thought. To use the ba-da-bing for expository writing, the present tense will be more useful. (*When you walk into the store, you notice the bakery aisle and you decide to buy bread.*) For more information, see Gretchen Bernabei's *Reviving the Essay*.






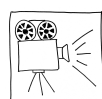


## TEXT ICONS

The following icons represent specific kinds of text. These can be used for details, or they can also be used to generate compositions or text structures.

Each will give an example of how to add details to the sentence: **Boys laugh.**

Icon	Type of Text	Sample Details for a Narrative (past tense)	Sample Details for Expository (present tense)
	<b>Talking</b> (dialogue, direct or indirect)	"Did you hear those boys chuckling?" my mom asked.	Experts agree that laughter is good for everybody.
	<b>Thinking</b> (inner speech or thoughtshots)	I knew it. They were laughing at me. At least that's what I suspected.	When boys laugh, they seem to attract the admiration of their peers.
	<b>Seeing</b> (snapshots)	I looked up and saw the three boys standing in the corner, doubled over in laughter.	When a boy laughs, his eyebrows rise, and his lips compress at first.
	<b>Doing</b> (active verbs)	As the boys choked with laughter, tears ran down their faces. The air hummed with humor.	Boys gather to play sports, to compete physically, and to laugh.
	<b>Information</b> (background or analytic)	For the first time all year, the boys from Mr. Kauffman's class laughed out loud.	The boys laugh, experiencing what researchers call a "social vocalization, which binds people together."
	<b>Smells</b> (literal or figurative)	I smelled the enchiladas, the sandwiches, and the embarrassment in the cafeteria as the boys shrieked with laughter.	Boys never grow too old to laugh at certain smells.
	<b>Sounds</b> (nonverbal sound effects)	The boys were snorting, wheezing with laughter, chortling and chuckling.	Contagious, the sounds of the boys' laughter cause everyone nearby to join in.



Icon	Type of Text	Sample Details for a Narrative (past tense)	Sample Details for Expository (present tense)
	<b>Physical reactions</b> (goosebumps)	My heart sank as I heard their mocking laughter.	As the boys laugh, they experience a flood of relief and relaxation.
	<b>Emotional reactions</b> (especially in conflict)	Although it was hilarious, I felt guilty laughing with them.	When boys laugh together, they test each other and bond strong friendships.
	<b>Book references</b>	The boys laughed with Grinchlike delight as they threw the paper around the room.	Sometimes the laughter of boys can be intimidating, especially when they are in Grinchlike moods.
	<b>Movie references</b>	Suddenly they all laughed a tittering, timid, Munchkin kind of laugh.	One kind of laughter is timid, shy Munchkin-like laughter.
	<b>World references</b> (geographical or historical)	They laughed and cavorted like competing court jesters.	Like a court jesters joking for the pleasure of a king, the boys laughed and entertained their coach.
	<b>Vocabulary</b>	Their laughter rang out, ostracizing their classmate.	Boys' laughter is hardly ever synthetic, but spontaneous.



(Add icons for any devices you have covered in class, like figurative devices, rhetorical devices, or grammatical structures.)

## TEXT STRUCTURES: A GROWING COLLECTION

### The Story of My Thinking

What I used to think

But this happened

So now I think

### A Memory

Where you  
were

Moment it  
started

Next moment

Final moment

What you  
thought

### A Colorized Memory

Where you were  
(dramatized)

Moment it  
started  
(dramatized)

Next moment  
(dramatized)

The final  
moment  
(dramatized)

What you  
thought

### Completely Made up Story

Moment involving  
character(s)

Moment when a problem  
arises

How the characters  
try (unsuccessfully)  
to solve the problem

How the  
characters solve it  
(or deal with it)

## A Fable

Animals doing something

Conversation between the animals

Action

Result

Moral

## Sequel to a Fable

Moral of original fable

But the next day the animals said

And this happened

The result was

New moral

## Comparing Notes (Mine and Others)

Some people think ...

And other people think ...

But I think ...

What that tells me ...

## Tevye's Debate

On one hand

On the other hand

But on the other hand

But on the other hand

How I can be guided when the choice is so tough

## Evolution of a Term (word or phrase in the prompt)

What the word meant to me when I was 4

What it meant when I was a little older

What the word means to me now

What the word will probably mean when I am \_\_\_\_ (pick an age)

## Tribute to the Person Who Taught Me Something

What the  
lesson is

Flashback to  
the lesson

Description of the  
person

Lyrics or words you  
can remember  
that person saying  
(on the subject)

What I wish I  
could find out now  
from that person

## The Onion - Unlayering What We Know

One (real) belief  
something we know

How do I know this?  
(Tell one way, one thing  
that happened)

If that had not  
happened, how else  
would you know it?

If that had not  
happened, how else  
would you know it?

## Insight Garden/The 11-minute essay

An insight about  
life

One illustration  
from literature

One illustration  
from a movie

An illustration  
from my life

I wonder

## Pet Peeve

What you  
saw first

What you said  
to yourself

What else  
you saw

What you  
decided

What you  
know now

## I Will Never

I will  
never...

If I did...

This would  
cause...

I've seen it  
before like  
when...

So I have  
decided  
that...

I will probably  
change my  
mind if...

## Replacement

I need to  
replace  
my ...

I used  
to ...

Now it  
doesn't ...

A new one  
would ...

However  
...

And so  
...

## Shopping List

I need to  
buy ...

Without  
it ...

This would  
cause ...

Eventually  
...

And so  
...

I only hope  
...

## A time you watched someone else do something on your won't-do list

I don't think I  
will ever ...

I don't  
understand  
how someone  
could ...

It's true  
that ...

And so it's  
so true  
that ...

However ...

So ...

## Prized Possession

I just  
couldn't do  
without ...

It has the  
most ...

It has ...

Before I had  
it ...

That's  
why ...

Without it,  
I would ...

## Conversation: One thing you and your friends talk about

When I was young,  
I wondered  
about ...

I thought that  
probably ...

Since then ...

All I really need  
to know now  
is ...

Eventually  
I'll ...

### Curiosity: One thing you'd like to know about

I have sometimes  
wondered  
about ...

I know that ...

I also know  
that ...

But I can't  
figure out  
how ...

Even so, I will  
always ...

### Competency: Something you can do well

I've never/always  
considered  
myself a ...

But then ...

That's when ...

So now ...

### Conversation: Comparing notes

Some people  
think ...

Other people think ...

I think ...

What I wonder  
is ...

### Work Moment (frustrating or satisfying)

Where you were

What you were  
doing

What you  
heard/saw

What good  
(or frustrating)  
thing happened

What  
surprised you

### Going Against the Grain

Some people  
think ...

This seems  
to happen  
because ...

However  
I believe ...

But I know people  
feel strongly ...

Even so I will  
always ...

*Contributed by Christi Gonzles*

## Alternative Solution

Problem

Conventional solution

The problem with that

Another solution

## David Brooks Editorials

This happened

An obvious way to think about it is ...

The problem with that view is ...

A better way to look at it would be ...

*Contributed by Thomas Newkirk*

## Giving an Award

Who you choose

One quality they have

One moment where you saw that quality

How that affected you then

What you think of that person still

*Contributed by Theresa Phelps*

## Favorite Activity

I like to \_\_\_\_\_

My first experience with it

How you do/play it

How it makes you feel

Positive results

*Contributed by Theresa Phelps*

## Ethos

You know (of) this person

You trust this person

This person says \_\_\_\_\_

It must be true

## Pathos

We value these things

Look what happened

Isn't that sad

We must do this \_\_\_\_\_

## Logos

Here is a point

Reason/Evidence

Proven theories

So

## Syllogism

If this is true

And this is true

Then this must be true

## Cicero's arrangement (dispositio)

Who you are and  
what you want

Facts of  
the case

What should be  
done  
(your position)

Flaws in opposing  
arguments

Summary and  
next steps

Exordium

Narratio

Confirmatio

Refutatio

Peroratio

## Curiosity

I have  
wondered ...

I figured out  
that ...

Then I also  
figured  
out ...

Last I  
figured  
out ...

This all  
means  
that ...

What you can  
do about it

*Robin Pool*

## Doing Something 101

Truism

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

Step 4

Results  
(with image)

*Robert Schuler*



## History of Something

Why this is

When this happened

What people thought then

What people think now

*Loretta Anderson*

## Problem/Solution

Why people deliver messages like this

Our deep belief

How things are supposed to work

The problem

Proof

What we have tried (unsuccessfully)

Our solution

*Declaration of Independence*

## Dilemma

Choice: Staying the same or changing

What change would mean

Biggest disadvantage of change

Biggest disadvantage of staying the same

How change might make it worse

What happens if you just don't decide

*Hamlet—Act 3, Scene 1*

## Now Introducing

One person's moment using the thing

What problem the thing solves

How the thing works

But one problem the thing creates

Reasons it is a good idea anyway

Data to support the purpose

*From Drive Cam Article*

## Musing to an object

Direct address and a question (something you want to know)

Description of one physical characteristic of the object

Description of another characteristic of the object, with a simile

An imperative to the object; a wish or a hope

*Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*

## TEXT STRUCTURES INVENTED BY KIDS

### Hindsight Reflections

This bad situation  
happened

How I should have  
reacted

Rather than making  
the best of a bad  
situation, how  
I did react

Now I know

*Amanda Grosch*

### Seeking an Answer

I had  
this question

I asked somebody  
for an answer

I asked somebody  
else to confirm the  
previous answer

I tested out the  
answer for myself  
with this  
experience

What I learned  
from my  
experience

*Giovanni Ocasio*

### Deception

I saw this happen

And so I did this

But then I realized

So now I know

*Destiny Costly*

### We Agreed

I said this

And she/he said that

But we both agree on this

*Eric Flores*

### The Right Choice

My problem

What my friend thinks  
I should do

So I decided to ...

Now I think

*Rebecca Dschuden*

## Why We Do Things

This event  
happened

It caused me to be  
in this mood

Which caused this  
to happen

So now I know

*Shawn St. Hilaire*

## Wishful Thinking

One problem in the world

Why it is this way

What you wish it  
would be like

*Gisela Navarro*

## Maturing Thoughts (over a key word in the prompt)

How important it  
was to you when you  
were \_\_\_\_ (young)

How important it was  
to you when you were  
\_\_\_\_\_ (older)

How important it is  
to you now

How your thoughts  
changed as you  
grew older

*Marissa LaRochelle*

## The Unexpected Reaction

What I said

How the listener reacted

What I learned

*Samantha Runnels*

## Action Up

I used to act  
like this

Then I went  
through this

Which made me  
consider the future  
like this

So now I act  
like this

*Casey Towle*

### Explanation of a Term

Dictionary-like  
definition

Your personal  
definition

What feeling  
you get  
from it

What others  
make you  
think

Example in  
society today

Another  
example  
(optional)

*Cary Inzerello*

### Following a Path

Where I started  
out in life

Where I found  
myself

Where I am now

Where I might be in the  
future

*Rebekah Long*

### A Box of Chocolates

What happened

What you  
expected to get

What you  
really got

How you reacted

*Marco Vidarri*

### Influences and Consequences

I was taught this

But I was influenced  
by this

So I did this

And the consequences  
were this

*Adam Saenz*

### A Bad Choice

A choice you made

What happened after  
that choice

Things you learned  
later about  
that choice

What you think now  
about that choice  
you made

*Joseph Kidder*

## Never Ever

What I've never done

Why I've never done it

Will I ever do it?

*Adrian Martinez*

## Temptations

How someone  
else was  
tempted

So I was tempted

So then we  
did this

Then this  
happened

Then this  
happened

*Tabitha Flores*

## True Friends

My friend would  
always do this

So I believe this  
about them

Then over time, they  
started/stopped  
doing this

So now I think this  
about them

*Dash Dalrymple*

## Anxiety

A fear I have ...

What made me scared ...

Will I be scared  
in the future?

*Amanda Garza*

## Change of Heart

Because I  
thought this ...

I used to  
feel this ...

But this  
happened ...

So now I  
feel this ...

Which makes me  
think that ...

*Anissa Castaña*

### Discovering the Fireworks

What the  
spectacular  
event was

How it made you feel

Why it made you  
feel that way

What it made  
you realize

*A. J. Ouellette*

### Wrong Assumption

I made this wrong  
assumption

Something happened  
as a consequence

I learned the truth

So now I believe

*Diana Diaz*

### Garden of Eden

One time long ago

As time passed

Now . . .

*Tara Coleman*

### Expert Testimony

According to  
this person

According to this  
other person . . .

But according  
to me . . .

So now I  
think . . .

*LaQuette Barksdale*

### Alternate Choices

I can either do this . . .

Or I can do this

I choose \_\_\_\_\_  
because

*Marisa Farias*

### Elimination or Confirmation

I've never been  
sure if

But I've always  
suspected

Because once I  
experienced

which made me  
think that

And finally I  
realized

*Michael Gonzalez*

### Sensory Associations

When I heard/  
smell/see ...

It reminds me  
of ...

which makes  
me feel ...

Because ...

*Julee Lanum*

### The Evolution of a Habit

I used to have  
this habit

Because I  
thought this

But then  
this happened

As a result,  
the habit was  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Alexander Burke*

### The Real Deal

I saw someone

I assumed ...

When actually ...

So now I  
understand ...

*Amber Wojtek*

### What is it? (Defining a Word)

Is it this?

Or this?

Or this?

A memory

which makes  
me realize  
it's this

*Adrian Martinez*

### Confusing Testimony

Someone told me  
(an inaccurate thing)

Then I checked I with  
someone else

And that person  
set me straight

How I explain  
that 1st person's  
misinformation

*Alexander Burke*

### Yellow Brick Road

This (bad thing)  
happened

And this is how I  
reacted

Then later something  
similar happened

So, reflecting on my  
prior experience, this  
time I did this instead

*Nathan McCann*

### Find and Truth Through Experience

I heard this

But I thought  
the opposite

Then I had this  
experience

Now I think this

*Nathan Hay*

### Not on my Nerves Any More

I used to hate it  
when other people . . .

But then I realized  
I also did it

So now when I see  
other people doing it  
I remember that . . .

*Tricia Asher*

### Crossing the River Again

A recurring  
challenge

How the  
challenge first  
came up

But since then  
this happened

How I now meet  
the challenge

How it still  
challenges me

*Clayton Graham*



### Use Your Noodle

I was taught this

What I thought about  
what I was taught

But this happened

So what I now  
think about what  
I was taught

*Brianna Cook*

### You Never Know

I assumed ...

But it turned out ...

So now I think ...

*Matt Cadena*

### The Idea

I think about a ...

I ask other people  
what they think

We put our thoughts  
together

We came up with  
a final decision

*Leanna Hernandez*

### Day Dreamer

Sometimes I'm thinking  
a lot about

What made me think it

What this thought means

*Sarah Crickmore*

### With This in Mind

One true thing

With this in mind,  
it will not be possible for  
\_\_\_\_\_

One hardship that  
will create

So now I wonder

*Ashley Brzostowski*

## The Game

There was a perfect  
time when ...

But then ...

Now I know ...

*Stacey Arias*

## Making a Change

One thing I wanted  
to change

What was  
stopping me

Even though I  
know this ...

So ...

*Samantha Ross*

## Thinking Hurts

This happened

which  
caused this

which made  
this happen

which  
caused this

which made me  
think this

*Stephen Crisp*

## Faith in Spite of Experience

Despite this repeated  
bad thing happening ...

I know that ...

So I will do this

*Carmen Garcia*

## Wisdom Tug-of-War

I was always  
told to ...

Then I actually  
wanted

In order to  
keep me on  
the right path

But instead I

I slowly realized  
that

*Bernard Gottschalk*

## Your Actions

Something makes  
you too confident  
in this belief

Your actions cause  
a downfall

So now, you  
act like this

Because now  
you believe

*Marcus Garcia*

## Deciding Through Diverse Opinions

We did this

I thought it was  
a bad idea  
because

But others  
thought  
differently

So together we  
concluded

So we did this

*Megan Morefield*

## Changing Gears

\_\_\_\_\_ is  
(characteristic)

One thing  
they did that  
shows this

When asked why  
he/she behaved  
in this manner

Gradually

To this day . . .

*Inspired by Elise Leal*

## Wo . . . Wo . . . Wonder

I used to wonder

Because

But then this  
happened

So I no longer wonder;  
now I think . . .

*Re'Shelle Kibler*

## Line of Thought

One time  
this happened

which made  
this happen

which made  
me realize this

So this happened

*Chris Clay*

## Seeing is Believing

What I did first

But then I saw

And that made  
me think

So then  
I did this . . .

*Molly Pierce and Sarah Sinclair*

## She Saw

She saw . . .

And she  
thought

I saw the  
same thing

And I thought

So I guess

*Adria Warner*

## Who Reacted When

Why  
this happened

How  
this happened

When  
this happened

What people  
thought about it

*Alex Blue*

## Metamorphosis

How you  
felt before  
it happened

How you felt  
while it was  
happening

How you felt  
after it  
happened

How you  
feel now

What you  
believe now

*Kelsey Mahan*

## What the Heck

My friends  
did this

I thought  
about it

I believe  
\_\_\_\_\_  
so

I did this

They  
reacted like  
this

So now,  
we . . .

*Casey Lewis*

## The Influence of We

What I thought

How I felt about  
this thought

What others  
thought about my  
thoughts

What I thought  
about my thoughts  
after others told  
me what they  
thought

What I know

*Sarah Chu*

## Cause and Effect

I did this

It caused this

Now I know this

*Celeste Ramirez*

## Life Lesson, Past and Future

What the life  
lesson is

What it means  
to you

How it affected  
your life (past)

How it will affect  
your life (future)

*Adam Hinds*

## Backfire

I did this

Because of  
\_\_\_\_\_

What I was  
hoping for

But instead  
this happened

So now I think

*Armando Barrera*

## Life Lessons Learned

I never realized  
\_\_\_\_\_

Until  
this happened

Then I realized

So now I try ...

*Amanda Walker*

### Discovering a Lie

Someone told me

So I believed

Then I found out

So now I think/know

*Alyssa Flores*

### Changing Your Mind

I believe this

But society  
proved me wrong  
by doing this

So then I  
believe this

But then this  
happened

So now I  
believe this

*Greg Herbst*

### I Wish

I wish that

But I know

And knowing  
this

Makes me  
believe...

*Steven Young*

### Arguing

I said  
this...

They said  
that...

We argued  
because of  
\_\_\_\_\_

How we  
resolve it

Now I  
think this

*Remy Locasio*

### Then What?

One way I got  
in trouble

After that this  
happened

Then this  
happened

I was thinking  
about my  
consequences

So now I think

*Artemis Martinez and Justin Garza*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Planning Sheet

Type of Writing (Check One)

☐ Writing about myself

☐ Writing to inform me

☐ Writing to inform others

☐ Writing to persuade

☐ Writing about literature

Put your **truism** (aka assertion aka problem aka main question) here.

Put your **text structure** here.

Write your **kernel essay** here.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

Plan for **details**:

ACTION DETAIL

☐ snapshots

☐ sensory details

☐ thoughtshots

☐ ba-da-bing

☐ dialogue

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

INFOSHOTS

☐ description

☐ synonyms/antonyms

☐ compare/contrast

☐ part/whole

☐ cause/effect

☐ item/category

☐ before/after

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Elastic Kernel

Your Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

How could you write about this topic in different ways?

<b>NARRATIVE</b> (What Happened)	<b>EXPOSITORY</b> (What Happened)	<b>ARGUMENTATION</b> (What Should Happen)
<b>Memory driven:</b> what happened in your life, and what did it mean to you?	<b>Curiosity driven:</b> what would other people want to know? What else would you want to find out?	<b>Driven by the need for change:</b> right/wrong, good/better, current ways/better ways
<b>Ex:</b> The moment that we caught a marlin	<b>All about</b> fishing tackle How to catch a marlin <b>Different kinds</b> of fishing trips <b>Background on</b> catch-and-release <b>Tips for</b> safe fishing	<b>Why</b> catch-and-release is important <b>Why</b> families <b>should</b> fish together <b>Why</b> gulf waters <b>should</b> be protected The value of male bonding over fishing <b>The benefits of</b> spending time with your family out in nature



# Titles That Sell Informational Articles

All About \_\_\_\_\_ and Why It Matters

Everything You Need to Know About \_\_\_\_\_

What You Never Knew About \_\_\_\_\_

Top Ten Reasons for \_\_\_\_\_

The Secret(s) Behind \_\_\_\_\_

The Truth About \_\_\_\_\_

Amazing Facts About \_\_\_\_\_

The Real Story About \_\_\_\_\_

The \_\_\_\_\_ Controversy

Your Personal Guide to \_\_\_\_\_

Success with \_\_\_\_\_

Win Big with \_\_\_\_\_

Prizewinning \_\_\_\_\_

The Ultimate Scoop on \_\_\_\_\_

Hidden Secrets About \_\_\_\_\_

An Essential Guide to \_\_\_\_\_

The Zen of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ for Dummies

Lessons from a \_\_\_\_\_

Just Say No to \_\_\_\_\_

Little Known Facts About \_\_\_\_\_

The Secret Life of \_\_\_\_\_

# Infoshots

**Requirement/Action**

Money is required to buy a gift.

\_\_\_ is required in order to \_\_\_.

MARY VARGAS

**User/Tool**

A worker uses a shovel.

\_\_\_ uses \_\_\_.

Marielle Holdsworth | Ethan Hays

**OPPOSITES**

Day is the opposite of night.

\_\_\_ is the opposite of \_\_\_.

G. Bernabei

**SYNONYMS**

This mug is almost the same as that mug.

\_\_\_ is almost the same as \_\_\_.

Sydney Lotz

**DEFINING CHARACTERISTIC**

A sheep can be described as soft.

\_\_\_ can be described as \_\_\_.

G. Bernabei

**PART / WHOLE**

A kernel is part of an ear.

A \_\_\_ is part of a \_\_\_.

Bree Taha

**CAUSE / EFFECT**

A cactus can cause the need for a bandage.

\_\_\_ can cause \_\_\_.

Angelica Blake

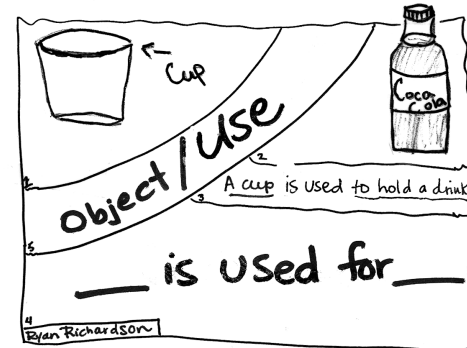
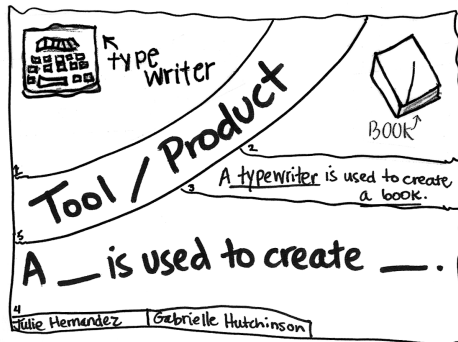
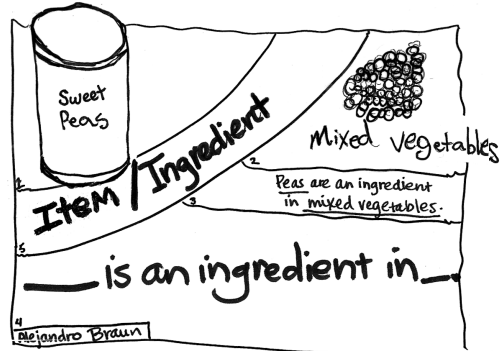
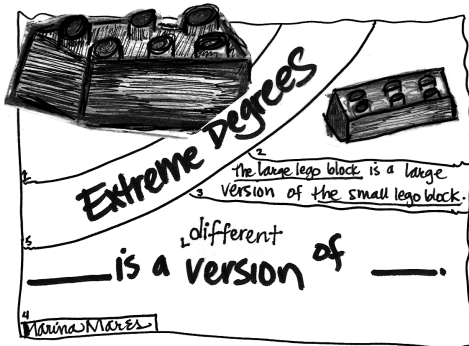
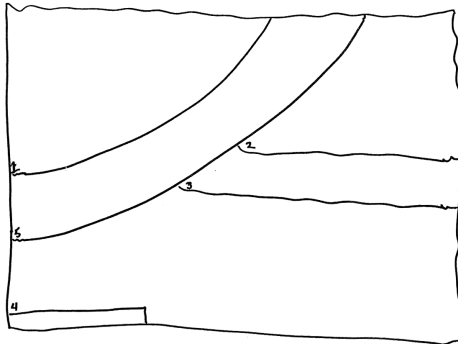
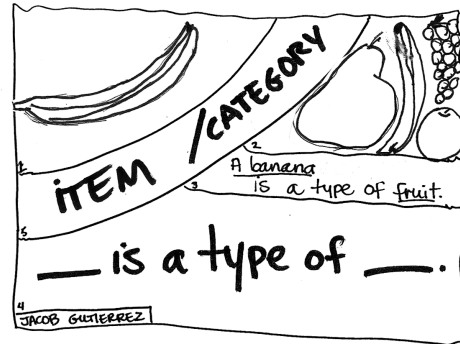
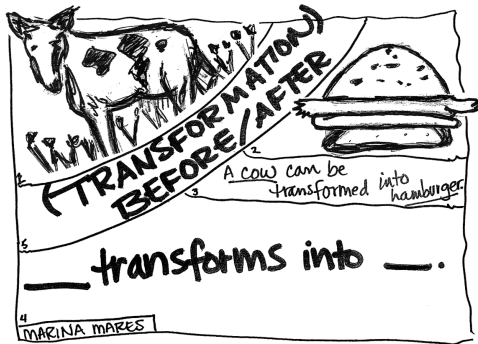
**OBJECT / FUNCTION**

A violin is used for creating music.

\_\_\_ is used for \_\_\_.

Marina Mares

# Infoshots



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Journal Hunt

Look through your journal; find entries. List phrases and page numbers.

W	A	S	W	A	I	W	T	P
Best moments			Things You Explained (Even a Little)			Things You'd Like to Change		
1.			1.			1.		
2.			2.			2.		
3.			3.			3.		
4.			4.			4.		
Worst moments			5.			5.		
1.			6.			Things (Almost) Everyone Agrees About		
2.			Things You <sup>Are</sup> Were Curious About			1.		
3.			1.			2.		
Moments of Confusion			2.			3.		
1.			3.			4.		
2.			4.			5.		
3.			5.			Things You Need(ed)		
Things You Believe(d)			6.			1.		
1.			Things You Need(ed) to Find Out About			2.		
2.			1.			3.		
3.			2.			4.		
Changes You See In You			3.			5.		
1.			4.			Things You Need Other People to Do		
2.			5.					
3.			Things You Can Do			1.		
Changes In How You See Others/The World			1.			2.		
			2.			3.		
1.			3.			4.		
2.			4.			5.		
3.								

# Bank of Expository Prompts

In each of the following, the word *explain* signals an expository (not narrative) essay. You could change any of the content words in the prompts, especially the adjectives, to create many more prompts.

Who is the most surprising person you know? Write an essay about that person, explaining what makes him or her so surprising.

Who is the most helpful person you know? Write an essay about that person, explaining what makes him or her so helpful.

Who is the most focused person you know? Write an essay about that person, explaining what makes him or her so focused.

Who is the funniest person you know? Write an essay about that person, explaining what makes him or her so funny.

Where is the place you consider the most exciting? Write an essay about that place, explaining what makes it so exciting.

Where is a place you consider the most peaceful? Write an essay about that place, explaining what makes it so peaceful.

What is an important possession you have lost? Write an essay about that possession, explaining its importance to you.

What is one of your favorite possessions? Write an essay about that possession, explaining what makes it one of your favorites.

Explain the meaning of *bravery*.

Explain the importance of failure.

Explain the significance of responsibility.

Explain the effects of stress.

Explain the kinds of friendship.

Explain the value of hope.

Explain the sources of pride.

Explain the difficulties of trustworthiness.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Checking Your Essay

<b>ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE</b>	One paragraph for each kernel sentence?	Is your planning sheet attached? (text structure boxes and kernel essay)	<b>8 points</b>	
<b>DEPTH</b>	2 or more 3-in-1 infoshots?	Highlight yellow	<b>8 points</b>	
	2 snapshots?	Highlight blue	<b>4 points</b>	
<b>WORD CHOICE</b>	3 or more vocabulary words?	Underline these	<b>4 points</b>	
<b>MECHANICS</b>	Periods? Proper nouns capitalized? Apostrophes correct?		<b>4 points</b>	
<b>PROOFREADING</b>	3 "I heard this" signatures?	Did you listen as you read?	<b>2 points</b>	
<b>FORMAT</b>	Is your heading on the top left?	Title centered, capitalized, and not underlined?		

**Total: 30 points**

# Build an Opinion Prompt

## Explain why I

(choose one)

- ☐ crave
- ☐ need
- ☐ enjoy
- ☐ like
- ☐ dislike
- ☐ detest
- ☐ abhor

(choose one)

- ☐ times
- ☐ things—possessions
- ☐ activities
- ☐ places
- ☐ abstract concepts

TIMES	POSSESSIONS	ACTIVITIES	PLACES	ABSTRACT CONCEPTS
1898 (or another year)	awards	apologizing	airport	acceptance
afternoon	basketball	biking	backyard	bravery
birthdays	cameras	cooking	beach	caring
breakfast	candy	crying	beauty shop	confusion
early morning	chocolate	dreaming	bookstore	disappointment
far into the future	electronics	exercising	car	embarrassment
last semester	food	falling	college	envy
last week	furniture	gossiping	country	excitement
last year	glasses	hopping	dollhouse	failure
naptime	gym bag	interrupting	ecosystems	fear
nighttime	jewelry	jumping	front seat	freedom
noon	junk	laughing	gardens	friendship
now	library books	painting	gas station	frustration
party time	money	planning	grocery store	happiness
study time	movies	pondering	highway	honor
summertime	pets	reading	islands	hope
sunrise	plants	running	Jacuzzi	independence
sunset	rugs	sewing	land	loneliness
today	school supplies	shopping	library	love
tomorrow	shoes	singing	mine shaft	loyalty
Tuesday	skates	skating	mountains	patriotism
when i was younger	towel	sleeping	movie theatre	pride
winter	toys	smiling	north	respect
years ago	trash can	spying	ocean	responsibility
yesterday		swimming	park	stress
		talking	place of worship	trustworthiness
		texting	pool	worry
		thinking	rain forest	
		washing hands	rooms	
		watching movies/TV	seashore	
		whispering	sports arena	
		wishing	tree house	
		writing	underwater	

-PLANNING THINKING-

① Topic of interest: \_\_\_\_\_

② Nickname of Structure: \_\_\_\_\_

□ → □ → □ → □ → □ → □

④ Questions  
from  
Listeners

③ Kernel essay

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

⑤ infoshots =  
template  
sentence + jerktalk

Sticky notes here

⑥ Design:  
lay out your structure  
and plan for where  
to embed your  
infoshots

SIGNATURES OF LISTENERS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



# Three-in-One Infoshots: Try It!

Write sentences using the template patterns. Then combine them to create “sneaky infoshots.”

<b>Three</b>	French toast is the opposite of hamburgers. French toast can be described as amazingness. French toast changes lives!
<b>One</b>	As opposed to a hamburger, the amazing French toast can definitely change your life. <div>—Batya K., grade 8</div>

## Try it!

<b>Three</b>	<div>1. _____ _____ _____</div> <div>2. _____ _____ _____</div> <div>3. _____ _____ _____</div>
--------------	---

<b>One</b>	
------------	--

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Self-Selected Reading Book Essay Assignment and Pre-Writing

What is the best thing about your book? \_\_\_\_\_

Title of book: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Plot summary: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Choose a **text structure** to talk about your book. Then write a **kernel essay** about one aspect of the book. Turn this page in for a maximum grade of B. If you would like a grade of A, then flesh out your kernel essay with details from the book, and turn in that essay with this page. The final essay should range from 400 to 700 words, typed.

**Name of structure:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Kernel essay:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

**Heard by:** (three signatures) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Science Fair Project Abstract

Put your **title** here

---

---

Text structure: **Science Fair Abstract**

what  
question you  
are answering  
(your  
problem)

what you  
suspected  
was true  
(your  
hypothesis)

what you did  
(your steps,  
or experiment  
procedure)

what  
happened  
(your results)

what that  
means  
(your  
conclusion)

---

---

Write your **kernel essay** here.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Create your **abstract** like this

Paragraph 1: sentences 1 and 2.

Paragraph 2: your steps.

Paragraph 3: sentences 4 and 5.