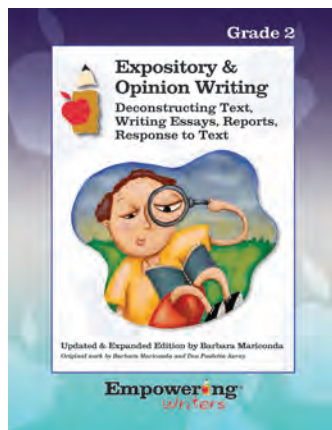




**Grade 2**  
**Expository and Opinion Writing**  
**Deconstructing Text, Writing Essays, Reports, Response to Text**

**Student Pages for Print or Projection**

**SECTION 6: Authentic Writing Tasks**



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**1-866-285-3516**



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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (1)

You've been invited to a birthday party! Write about the games you'll play and foods you'll eat at this special gathering.

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #2: \_\_\_\_\_





# Student Page

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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (2)

Think about a relative you really like. Write an essay describing two things you enjoy doing together.

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #2: \_\_\_\_\_





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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (3)

Going to the beach is a great summer outing. Write a piece telling about what you like best about the sand and the water.

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN REASON #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN REASON #2: \_\_\_\_\_







# Student Page

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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (4)

Most schools have a playground. Write an essay explaining two things you enjoy doing at the playground.

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN REASON #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN REASON #2: \_\_\_\_\_





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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (5)

Write about a sport you like to play. Tell about the rules of the game and the equipment needed to play this sport.

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #2: \_\_\_\_\_





# Student Page

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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (6)

There are many kinds of interesting mammals in the world. Write a text about a mammal. Include details about this creature's appearance, habitat, and behavior.

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #2: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #3: \_\_\_\_\_







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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (7)

There are many different habitats in the world. There are jungles, grasslands, woodlands, seashores, rain forests, deserts, and more. Select a habitat and write a report that describes its landscape and the wildlife.

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #2: \_\_\_\_\_







# Student Page

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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (8)

What is your favorite season? Write about the weather and the outdoor activities that you think make this season the best one of all!

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN REASON #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN REASON #2: \_\_\_\_\_





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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (9)

Every day there are people in the world who work hard to help others. Write a report that describes two people who help others. They might be someone you know, or someone you don't know. Be sure to include who they help and the ways they help others.

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #2: \_\_\_\_\_





# Student Page

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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (10)

Think about the many books you've read. You may have read the book on your own, or someone may have read it to you. Write about two books that you think are the best. Be sure to explain what each book is about and explain what you liked about it.

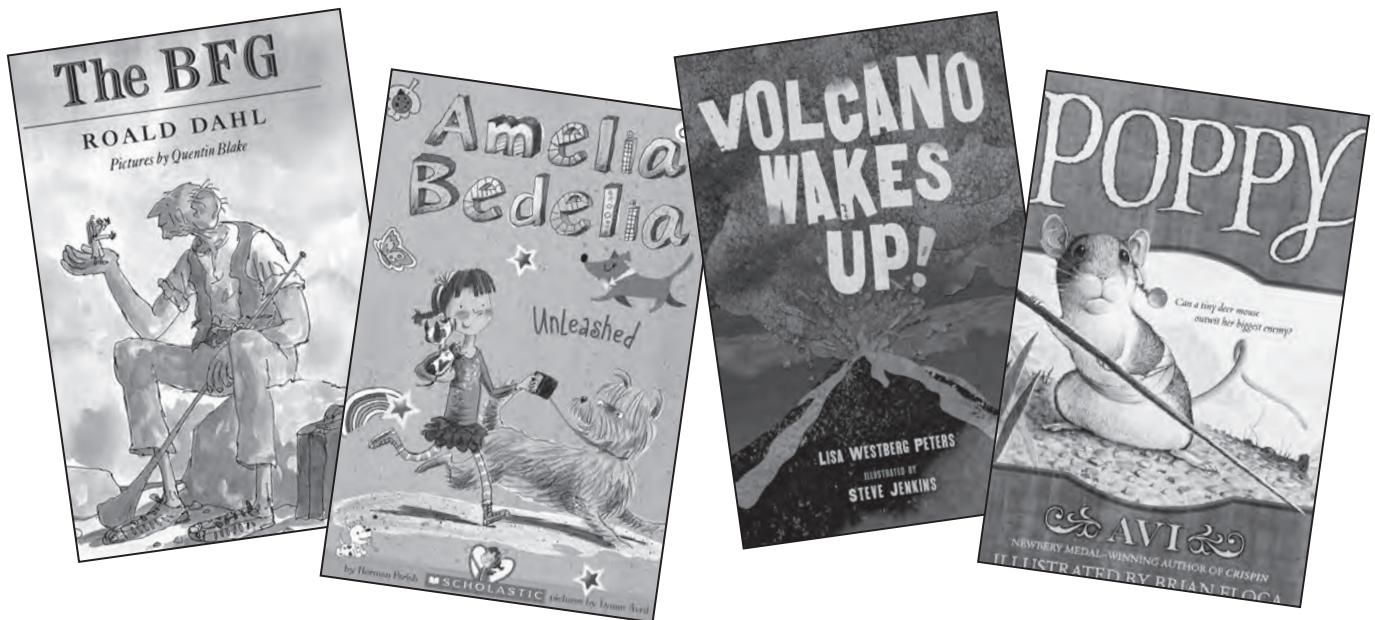
GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN REASON #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN REASON #2: \_\_\_\_\_







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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (11)

Staying healthy is important. Write an essay describing two things you can do to help stay healthy. Be sure to include plenty of details so your reader will know exactly what to do!

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #2: \_\_\_\_\_







# Student Page

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

## ANALYZING PROMPTS (12)

Think of all of the pets a child could have. Pick a pet and write a report about that pet. Be sure to include the supplies you'd need for this pet, and the ways you'd need to care for it. Then, on another paper draw a detailed illustration of what this pet looks like.

GENRE: \_\_\_\_\_

Prewriting Framework:

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #1: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIN IDEA #2: \_\_\_\_\_





# Student Page

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

## TEMPLATE FOR INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH

Write your introduction paragraph. It must include your topic and main ideas. Use informative verbs.

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### Informative Verbs

- learn about • understand
- discover • explore • examine
- uncover • find out • focus on
- remember

### Sentence Starters for your Introduction:

Let's discuss the \_\_\_\_\_ (*main idea/reason*) and explain \_\_\_\_\_ (*main ideas/reasons*).

Have you ever wondered about \_\_\_\_\_?

Are you interested in \_\_\_\_\_?

We'll explore \_\_\_\_\_.

Let's look closely at \_\_\_\_\_.

We'll examine \_\_\_\_\_.



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

## TEMPLATE FOR BODY PARAGRAPH(S)

Write your body paragraph(s) with details that support the main idea or main reason. To help you focus, underline your main idea sentence and write a “blurb” in the margin. Be sure that each detail is in a separate sentence and use “What does it look like? Why is it important?”

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### **Sentence Starters for your Body Paragraphs:**

Just imagine how \_\_\_\_\_.

Wouldn't you love \_\_\_\_\_?

You will surely understand why \_\_\_\_\_.

Do you believe \_\_\_\_\_?

It is exciting to \_\_\_\_\_.

If you think about it \_\_\_\_\_.

Let's think about how \_\_\_\_\_.

Let's look closely at \_\_\_\_\_.

If you want \_\_\_\_\_.



# Student Page

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

## TEMPLATE FOR CONCLUSION PARAGRAPH(S)

Write your conclusion paragraph(s) by restating the main ideas or main reasons and providing one last statement that sums it all up. Use definitive words and phrases.

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### Sentence Starters for Restating your Main Ideas/Reasons:

- Are you convinced \_\_\_\_\_?
- Isn't it interesting to learn about \_\_\_\_\_?
- The only question left is \_\_\_\_\_?
- If you've ever dreamed of \_\_\_\_\_.

### Sentence Starters for your Last Statement:

After all, \_\_\_\_\_.

Without a doubt, \_\_\_\_\_.

It is truly \_\_\_\_\_.

It is clear that \_\_\_\_\_.

### Definitive Words and Phrases

Without a doubt	After all
For sure	Surely
Clearly	Truly
Certainly	Definitely
Absolutely	





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

## A NONFICTION BOOK REPORT

Remember how you can turn questions into responses by repeating part of the question in your answer? The questions below will help you think about the book you read. Answer each question. Be sure to repeat the important part of the question in your answer. Several have been started for you!

1. What is the title of the book you read?

*The title of the book I read was* \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Who was it written by?

\_\_\_\_\_.

3. What was the topic of your book?

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. Which main ideas were included by the author?

*The author included main ideas such as* \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

5. What were you surprised to learn?

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

6. What was the most interesting fact that the author revealed?

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

7. Would you recommend this book? Why?

*I'd recommend this book because* \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

*I wouldn't recommend this book because* \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

To write your report, copy your answers on another paper, in paragraph form.



# Student Reference Page

## SENTENCE STARTERS FOR RESPONSE TO NON-FICTION TEXT:

- This piece explores \_\_\_\_\_.
- It was interesting to learn that \_\_\_\_\_.
- I was surprised to read that \_\_\_\_\_.
- This made sense because \_\_\_\_\_.
- The information here makes me \_\_\_\_\_.
- I learned that \_\_\_\_\_.
- This is a little like \_\_\_\_\_.
- This information reminds me of \_\_\_\_\_.
- What interested me most was \_\_\_\_\_, because \_\_\_\_\_.
- The author explains \_\_\_\_\_.
- I discovered that \_\_\_\_\_.
- The text discusses \_\_\_\_\_.
- In my own life I've \_\_\_\_\_.
- I was impressed by \_\_\_\_\_.
- After reading this I'll \_\_\_\_\_.
- I've decided that \_\_\_\_\_.
- The author points out \_\_\_\_\_.



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

## A NARRATIVE STORY BOOK REPORT

Remember how you can turn questions into responses by repeating part of the question in your answer? The questions below will help you think about the book you read. Answer each question. Be sure to repeat the important part of the question in your answer. Several have been started for you!

1. What is the title of the book you read?

*The title of the book I read was* \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Who was it written by?

\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Who was the main character in your book?

\_\_\_\_\_.

4. What was the main character's problem or adventure?

\_\_\_\_\_ *'s problem/adventure was* \_\_\_\_\_  
(main character's name)

5. What did the main character learn?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

6. What was the most entertaining part of the story?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

7. Would you recommend this book? Why?

*I'd recommend this book because* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

*I wouldn't recommend this book because* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

To write your report, copy your answers on another paper, in paragraph form.



# Student Reference Page

## SENTENCE STARTERS FOR RESPONSE TO NARRATIVE STORIES:

- The title of this story was \_\_\_\_\_.
- It was written by \_\_\_\_\_.
- This story is about \_\_\_\_\_.  
(main character)
- The problem was that \_\_\_\_\_.
- What \_\_\_\_\_ really wanted was \_\_\_\_\_.  
(main character)
- The adventure began when \_\_\_\_\_.
- The author had us in suspense when \_\_\_\_\_.
- The story got exciting when \_\_\_\_\_.
- I felt \_\_\_\_\_, when \_\_\_\_\_.  
(nervous, scared, happy, relieved, excited, sad)
- The problem was solved when \_\_\_\_\_.
- The adventure concluded when \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ learned that \_\_\_\_\_.  
(main character)
- This story reminds me of the time when I \_\_\_\_\_.
- I recommend this story because \_\_\_\_\_.
- I do not recommend this story because \_\_\_\_\_.





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

## LETTER TEMPLATE

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

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Your friend,

\_\_\_\_\_

P.S. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Teacher Page

## FINISHED EXAMPLE - LETTER TO NEXT YEAR'S CLASS

Dear Friend, <sup>Greeting</sup>

<sup>introduction</sup>

1. Welcome to grade 2! Get ready to learn about the two best things about second grade! I'll introduce you to your new teacher, Miss Madera, and describe our second grade play! <sup>main idea #1</sup> <sup>main idea #2</sup>

<sup>Miss Madera</sup>

2. Miss Madera is the best teacher in the world! She is so friendly and kind. She always has a smile, and if you're having a hard time she'll put her hand on your shoulder and give it a squeeze. That's how you know she'll always be there for you. She is my mom away from home! <sup>word referent</sup>

<sup>body</sup>

<sup>second grade play</sup>

3. At the end of the year you'll get to put on the second grade play. Every single kid gets a part so no one gets left out. We all sing funny songs that make the audience laugh. I'm not afraid to perform in front of people now, and I might try out for a play in town. Our second grade extravaganza gave me confidence! <sup>word referent</sup> <sup>main idea sentence</sup>

<sup>conclusion</sup>

4. So, welcome to second grade! Miss Madera and the second grade play will make it a year you won't forget! <sup>main idea #1</sup> <sup>main idea #2</sup>

Your friend, <sup>closing</sup>

P.S. One bit of advice: Don't forget your homework!

<sup>post script</sup>



## COMMON LITERARY THEMES

- Courage
- Perseverance
- Cooperation
- Compassion
- Honesty
- Kindness
- Loyalty
- Responsibility
- Appreciating what you have
- Forgiveness
- The Value of Hard Work
- Learning from Mistakes
- Determination
- Being True to Yourself
- Importance of Family
- Friendship

*Can you think of any others?*



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

**EVIDENCE OF THEME CHART**

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Theme: \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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## EVIDENCE OF THEME CHART

Book Title: Brace Irene

Theme: Determination

- Evidence:
- Irene convinces her mother to let her deliver dress
  - When the wind and snow slowed her down she said to wind, "Easy does it!" and leaned hard against it.
  - she had to hop, skip over snow.
  - snow sifted in her boots but she "pushed out her lip and hurried on."
  - Irene "pressed on backwards."
  - When the wind howled "Go home" Irene snapped. "I will do no such thing!"
  - When wind took the box Irene "wouldn't yield."
  - When the dress flew out she "trudged on" to explain to the duchess.
  - When Irene twisted her ankle she went on, despite her pain.
  - She "plowed on" and "went plodding on."
  - When snow was above her knees she "shoved her way through it."
  - Irene "pushed on with all her strength" when she saw the palace.
  - She tried twice to use box as a sled.
  - She managed, despite the wind, to get gown back in the box.
  - Duchess called Irene "brave and loving."





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

## NARRATIVE SUMMARIZING FRAMEWORK & TEMPLATE FOR THEME

This story is about \_\_\_\_\_.

The problem, adventure, or experience was that \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

The problem was solved/adventure, experience concluded when \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

The theme of this story is \_\_\_\_\_ .

We see this when \_\_\_\_\_ , the main character,

\_\_\_\_\_ .

This was also demonstrated when \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .

The reader also recognizes the theme in the story when \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .



# Sample

## NARRATIVE SUMMARIZING FRAMEWORK & TEMPLATE FOR THEME

This story is about Irene.

The problem, adventure, or experience was that she had to deliver the dress to the duchess in a snow storm.

The problem was solved/adventure, experience concluded when pressed on and finally used the box as a sled to get to the palace.

The theme of this story is determination.

We see this when Irene, the main character, insists on delivering the dress despite the terrible storm.

This was also demonstrated when she pushed out her lip stubbornly and walked backwards into the wind.

The reader also recognizes the theme in the story when despite her painful twisted ankle Irene "plowed and plodded" on through the freezing cold snow drifting over her head and tried not once but twice to get the box moving as a sled. She never gave up, even when it seemed impossible!  
This is what determination looks like.



# Student Reference Page

## FRAMING QUESTIONS FOR READING AND RESPONDING TO LITERATURE

- Who is the **main character**? (*point of view character or protagonist*)
- Where is the **story** set?
- What is the main character's **problem, challenge, or adventure**?
- What does the main character want?
- Where does the author use **suspense**?
- How does the main character **feel** about the situation?
- How does the main character **show** his/her feelings?
- How was the **main event** resolved?
- **What would you do** if faced with a similar challenge or adventure?

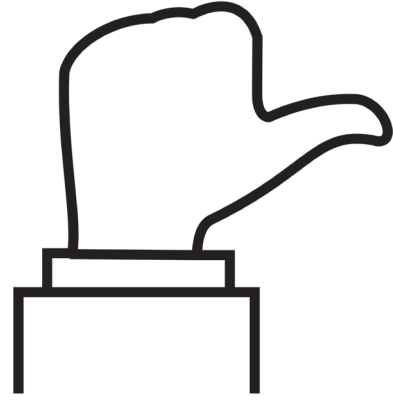


## PROS



1

## CONS



2

### Sentence Starters for Response to Narrative Texts

- In my opinion \_\_\_\_\_.
- To me it seems that \_\_\_\_\_.
- From my point of view \_\_\_\_\_.
- The story problem was \_\_\_\_\_.
- The way I see it \_\_\_\_\_.
- The adventure was \_\_\_\_\_.
- Without a doubt the best part \_\_\_\_\_.
- The part I liked best was \_\_\_\_\_.
- The part I enjoyed most was \_\_\_\_\_.
- It reminded me of the time when \_\_\_\_\_.

3

**What is your opinion about  
this story?**

4





# Opinion Cards

I am against \_\_\_\_\_.

I am opposed to \_\_\_\_\_.

I disapprove of \_\_\_\_\_.

I dislike \_\_\_\_\_.

I am anti-\_\_\_\_\_.

I am in opposition of \_\_\_\_\_.

No! I really don't like/want \_\_\_\_\_.

I do not support \_\_\_\_\_.

I am for \_\_\_\_\_.

I am in favor of \_\_\_\_\_.

I am pro \_\_\_\_\_.

I approve \_\_\_\_\_.

I am leaning toward \_\_\_\_\_.

I prefer \_\_\_\_\_.

Yes! I like \_\_\_\_\_.

I support \_\_\_\_\_.

In my opinion \_\_\_\_\_.

From my point of view \_\_\_\_\_.

The way I see it \_\_\_\_\_.

It made me think of \_\_\_\_\_.

The most exciting part was \_\_\_\_\_.

I felt sad when \_\_\_\_\_.

The funniest scene was \_\_\_\_\_.

I really loved \_\_\_\_\_.

My reason for liking this story is \_\_\_\_\_.

I liked this story because \_\_\_\_\_.

My reason for disliking this story is \_\_\_\_\_.

The story made me feel \_\_\_\_\_.

What I enjoyed most about the story \_\_\_\_\_.

I would not recommend this book because \_\_\_\_\_.

I would recommend this book because \_\_\_\_\_.



# Opinion Cards



What was the story problem or  
adventure?

5

What was the best part of the story?

6

What did the story remind you of  
in your own life?

7

What was the most exciting part?

8





# Opinion Cards

Without a doubt the best part \_\_\_\_\_.

The part I liked best was \_\_\_\_\_.

The part I enjoyed most was \_\_\_\_\_.

The most exciting part was \_\_\_\_\_.

It reminded me of the time when \_\_\_\_\_.

It made me think of \_\_\_\_\_.

To me it seems that \_\_\_\_\_.

The story problem was \_\_\_\_\_.

The adventure was \_\_\_\_\_.

# Opinion Cards



What part of the story made you  
feel sad?

9

What scene in the story was  
the funniest?

10

What did you love about this story?

11

What is your reason for liking  
this story?

12





# Opinion Cards

The funniest scene was \_\_\_\_\_.

My reason for liking this story is \_\_\_\_\_.

I liked this story because \_\_\_\_\_.

I felt sad when \_\_\_\_\_.

I really loved \_\_\_\_\_.

# Opinion Cards



What is your reason for disliking this story?

13

How did the story make you feel?

14

What did you enjoy the most about the story?

15

Why would you NOT recommend this book?

16







# Opinion Cards

The story made me feel \_\_\_\_\_.

My reason for disliking this story  
is \_\_\_\_\_.

I disliked this story because \_\_\_\_\_.

I would NOT recommend this book  
because \_\_\_\_\_.

What I enjoyed most about the  
story \_\_\_\_\_.



What do you prefer?

19

Why would you recommend this book?

17

What do you prefer?

20

## Opinion/Point of View Activity Take a Class Poll

- beach vs. amusement park
- chocolate ice cream vs. vanilla ice cream
- school lunch vs. bringing lunch to school
- dogs vs. cats
- winter vs. summer
- movie theater vs. home video
- baseball vs. football
- hot dogs vs. hamburgers
- hide n seek vs. tag

18





# Opinion Cards

**chocolate ice cream**

**vs.**

**vanilla ice cream**

**because...**

- pancakes vs. waffles
- eating out vs. eating at home
- riding bike vs. skate boarding
- apples vs. bananas
- math vs. reading
- narrative books vs. expository/informative books
- lemonade vs. chocolate milk
- spaghetti vs. tacos

**beach**

**vs.**

**amusement park**

**because...**

I would recommend this book  
because \_\_\_\_\_.



**What do you prefer?**

21

**What do you prefer?**

22

**What do you prefer?**

23

**What do you prefer?**

24





# Opinion Cards

school lunch

vs.

bringing lunch to school

because...

dogs

vs.

cats

because...

winter

vs.

summer

because...

movie theater

vs.

home video

because...





**What do you prefer?**

25

**What do you prefer?**

26

**What do you prefer?**

27

**What do you prefer?**

28





# Opinion Cards

baseball

vs.

football

because...

hot dogs

vs.

hamburgers

because...

hide n seek

vs.

tag

because...

pancakes

vs.

waffles

because...

# Opinion Cards



What do you prefer?

29

What do you prefer?

30

What do you prefer?

31

What do you prefer?

32





# Opinion Cards

eating out  
vs.  
eating at home  
because...

riding bike  
vs.  
skate boarding  
because...

apples  
vs.  
bananas  
because...

math  
vs.  
reading  
because...



**What do you prefer?**

35

**What do you prefer?**

33

**Take a position? Pose an issue to the class.**

- have a set bedtime?
- limit TV, computer time?
- have an extra recess each day?
- have a class pet?
- be allowed to wear flip-flops?
- have dessert every day?
- have an all-boy or all-girl classroom?
- have gym class daily?
- have homework?
- have school six days a week?

36

**What do you prefer?**

34



# Opinion Cards

narrative books

vs.

expository/informative  
books

because...

lemonade

vs.

chocolate milk

because...

Take a position!

spaghetti

vs.

tacos

because...



# Opinion Cards



Take a position!

37

Take a position!

38

Take a position!

39

Take a position!

40





# Opinion Cards

Should we -  
have an extra recess  
each day?

Should we -  
have a set bedtime?

Should we -  
have a class pet?

Should we -  
limit TV or computer  
time?

# Opinion Cards



Take a position!

41

Take a position!

42

Take a position!

43

Take a position!

44





# Opinion Cards

Should we -  
be allowed to wear  
flip-flops?

Should we -  
have dessert all day?

Should we -  
have an all-boy or  
all-girl classroom?

Should we -  
have gym class daily?



Whether positive or negative, it is helpful to have a variety of ways to express opinions. These sentence starters can be used to state the author's position of stance on just about any topic, situation, activity, and issue. Some general phrases are:

## What's your Opinion?

- In my opinion \_\_\_\_\_.
- From my point of view, \_\_\_\_\_.
- The way I see it, \_\_\_\_\_.
- I believe that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Don't you agree that \_\_\_\_\_?
- I feel that \_\_\_\_\_.

47

## Take a position!

45



## Take a position!

48

46



# Opinion Cards

Should we -  
have homework?

Should we -  
have school six days  
a week?

Should we -  
have an all-boy or all-  
girl classroom?

What's your Opinion?