

# VDOE Writing Prompts Study Guide

## Format for Thesis Statements and Supporting Ideas

**Directions:** Carefully read each prompt (packet provided). Determine what the topic of each prompt is. Identify key words in the prompt that will help to “drive” and direct your thinking and writing. Highlight, underline, circle, or box these key words or phrases. Based on the key words and phrases you have identified, develop a propositional question or a thesis statement (a question or statement of main idea status). Jot down five or more ideas (in complete sentences) that will answer your propositional question and support your thesis statement.

The information you record should be able to support an effective five-paragraph essay.

### **“A Place to Visit” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

If I could visit any place in the world, I would visit France because of the museums, food, and nightlife.

*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. France offers many different cultural and art museums to visit.
2. France has an array of unique and appetizing food.
3. France has a bustling nightlife that is alive with people and activities to suit all different tastes!

### **“Wisdom and Experience” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

My mother has gone through many experiences, and she has shared the wisdom that she gained from her different life trials about self-esteem, money, and friendships.

*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### **“Technology Changing Daily Life” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

Daily life has changed over the last one hundred years due to various advancements in technology.

*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

### **“School Activities” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Outdoor Activities” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Advantages of Earning Your Own Money” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Advice from More than One Person” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“An Enjoyable Educational Activity” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“A Lesson for Elementary Students”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Designing a Neighborhood of the Future”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Benefits of a Having a Good Attitude”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Small Acts of Kindness”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Thoughtful Acts”** *Expository* (Similar to the one above)

### **“A Character Similar to Me” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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### **“How I Would Change the World” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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### **“How Do I Define Success?” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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### **“Doing Your Best; Making the Best out of a Bad Situation” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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### **“Taking Risks or Playing it Safe” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**“My Own Advice Versus the Advise of Others”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Something I Would Like to Accomplish in the Future”** *Narrative/Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Public Speaking”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Pairing Older and Younger Students”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Something with Special Meaning”** *Expository*

*Propositional Question/Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Effects of Competition in Schools”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Owning a Pet”** *Persuasive*

*Thesis Statement*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Overcoming a Challenge”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Developing a Skill or Talent” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Changing Your School” Expository**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Imagination Versus Knowledge” Persuasive**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Can Failure Lead to Success?” Persuasive**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**“The Importance of Time Management”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Changes to Dress Code”** *Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Small Breaks”** *Persuasive*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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**“Group Projects”** *Persuasive*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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### **“Honesty” Persuasive**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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### **“Homework Clubs” Persuasive**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

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2. 

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3. 

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### **“Visiting a Workplace” Persuasive Letter**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

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2. 

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3. 

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### **“Extracurricular Activity Requirement” Persuasive**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. 

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2. 

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3. 

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### **“Extending the School Day” Persuasive Letter**

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Nutritious Drinks in Schools”** *Persuasive Letter*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Large Salaries of Professional Entertainers”** *Persuasive*

*Thesis Statement*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**“Improving Your Community”** *Persuasive/Expository*

*Thesis Statement:*

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*Body Topic Sentences:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_