



Writing Topics – Grades 5-8

Poly Prep requires applicants to submit a short writing sample for the admissions committee. This “essay” must be written using a word processor and submitted online to essays@polyprep.org as an attachment.

** Please use the student’s last name as the first word in the subject line. Make certain the student’s name also appears on the essay document.

Instructions for completing Poly Prep’s Application Writing Sample

1. Get ready! Read through the various options and decide which question or topic will represent you best.
2. Write! Once you have decided on the topic, compose your paragraph as a Word document on a computer. Save your document electronically so it may be submitted.
3. Submit! Upon completion of your writing sample, send it to the Poly Prep admissions office by sending the document as an attachment to essays@polyprep.org. Your LAST NAME should be the first word in the subject line. You must submit your essay by January 13, 2012.

Writing Topics — choose one of the following four topics and write a response that is between 200 and 350 words in length. Remember, quality and quantity of words are not interchangeable. What you say is far more important than the length of the response.

1. Do you ever get bored? Write a paragraph telling a friend what to do if he or she is bored and doesn't want to be.
2. It has been said that television has little real educational value. What is your opinion on this issue? Write a paragraph stating your opinion. Be sure to explain your reasons in detail.
3. Hans Christian Anderson once said “Where words fail, music speaks.” Write about music and what it means to you. Do you play an instrument? Do you prefer listening to music? Do you have a favorite song or performer? Do you like to interact with music alone in your room or with friends and family? Use these questions to start thinking and then write your paragraph; you do not need to answer these exact questions in your writing.
4. Is there something else you would like to write about? Your options are not limited to the three questions above; you may submit a writing sample using any topic you like.