

PARTS OF A WRITING PROMPT

Teacher: Carmen Sánchez Sadek, Ph.D. Title of Literature: KRAKATOA

Elements	
Purpose (Modes of Writing)	Expository Writing using narration and description
Literary Elements	Characterization, Historical Setting (time and place), Historical Significance (purpose), Introduction, Coherent Transitions, Appropriate Conclusion (relevance of character, event, time, place to TODAY), using the language from the KRAKATOA text.
Central Question	How have Historical Figures (Historical Events and previous Technological Advances) shaped our world TODAY?
Genre	REPORT (Brief Historical Fiction)
Audience	TEACHER
Student Writer's Viewpoint (1 st or 3 rd Person)	First Person – Each student assumes a “persona.”
Major Concepts & Skills	Writing a fictional biography; Writing a response to literature (KRAKATOA) that develops interpretation of the historical significance of time, place, customs and persons; Comparing and contrasting the motivation and reactions of characters across a variety of times; Prepare and deliver an oral presentation of the written fictional biography; Listens to oral presentations and solicits information, formulate questions, restate and paraphrases the communication of others.
The Prompts	Multiple Choice Assessment Instrument. Open-ended Assessment Instruments: (1) Written Assessment Instrument (2) Oral Assessment Instrument

Written Assessment Prompt:

In reading the beginning chapters of KRAKATOA, you chose to personify **one** of the historical figures that are named in this account of the explosion of the volcano on August 27, 1883.

Using as much information from KRAKATOA about your chosen historical figure, and using any additional information you found through the Internet or at the school library about your historical figure, write a fictional biography of this historical figure that includes:

1. The historical figure speaking about himself/herself as if he/she were alive, in other words, use **FIRST PERSON** point of view or “I.” For example: “I am ____ (name this person)_____”
2. Accurately describe the time **WHEN** this person lived as if the time were **RIGHT NOW**. For example: “Today is ____ (give a specific date) _____”
3. Describe the place **WHERE** this person is speaking, including the continent, country, region, area, city, specific place such as a building, house, field, mountain, etc. For example: “Right now I am standing _____”
4. Describe **WHO** this person is, his/her name, title, nationality, social and educational background, profession or occupation, and important details that contribute to the **SIGNIFICANCE** of this person in history.
5. Explain **WHAT** this person did, achieved or accomplished.
6. Explain **WHY** this person’s actions make this person important or significant in history. For example: “I am a very important historical figure because _____”
7. Explain **HOW** this person’s customs, actions, or words/thoughts influenced the events narrated in the story of KRAKATOA. For example: “I am a very learned individual and so I _____”
8. Compare and contrast this person with other historical figures mentioned in the story. For example: “I am like _____ because _____, but I am not like _____ because _____.”

9. Explain how, TODAY in the year 2004-2005, we still fill the “presence” of this significant historical figure in OUR world.

Oral Assessment Prompt:

You successfully prepared a WRITTEN fictional biography of your chosen historical figure using as much information from KRAKATOA and using additional information you found through the Internet or at the school library about your historical figure. Now, get ready to present your fictional biography to the class and get ready to answer, if you can, questions about your historical figures. In your oral presentation, include, in addition to pictures, drawings, maps, and other visual images or actual objects, the following:

10. The historical figure speaking about himself/herself as if he/she were alive, in other words, use FIRST PERSON point of view or “I.”
For example: “I am ____ (name this person)_____”
11. Accurately describe the time WHEN this person lived as if the time were RIGHT NOW. For example: “Today is ____ (give a specific date) _____”
12. Describe the place WHERE this person is speaking, including the continent, country, region, area, city, specific place such as a building, house, field, mountain, etc. For example: “Right now I am standing _____”
13. Describe WHO this person is, his/her name, title, nationality, social and educational background, profession or occupation, and important details that contribute to the SIGNIFICANCE of this person in history.
14. Explain WHAT this person did, achieved or accomplished.
15. Explain WHY this person’s actions make this person important or significant in history. For example: “I am a very important historical figure because _____”
16. Explain HOW this person’s customs, actions, or words/thoughts influenced the events narrated in the story of KRAKATOA. For example: “I am a very learned individual and so I _____”
17. Compare and contrast this person with other historical figures mentioned in the story. For

example: " I am like _____ because
_____, but I am not like _____
because _____.

18. Explain how, TODAY in the year 2004-2005, we still fill the "presence" of this significant historical figure in OUR world.