

Language Arts — 8th-Grade Writing Assignment Technical / Instructions (Standards W2.5, W2.6)

Objective: Students will be able to write an effective, clear technical and/or instructional document. (Standards W2.3, W2.4)

Prompt 1: Write a composition in which you explain how to make something. You may write about making a food or handcrafted item, building a small cage for a pet, or anything else you can create by bringing together other materials. Be sure to clearly explain each step in the process so the reader can make the item the way you do, and anticipate and address any problems that might arise while making the item.

Prompt 2: Write a composition in which you explain how to do something such as planning and planting a garden, repairing a bicycle, skateboard, or computer, planning an event, properly using a tool or piece of technology, or putting together a publicity campaign that actually works. Make sure you are familiar with what you are describing, and be sure to clearly explain each step in the process so the reader can duplicate your result — and don't forget to anticipate and address any problems that will arise while undertaking the task or activity.

Prompt 3: Write a composition in which you explain how to complete an effective search on the Internet, including the proper use of advanced search techniques. Your explanation should include information on how to verify the reliability of individual resources found on the Internet.

Prompt 4: Write a composition in which you explain how to use the basic functions needed to set up and create a simple Microsoft Word document — functions such as File → Page Setup, Format → Paragraph, and Format → Font.

Assignment: Be sure to write to one, specific prompt; also remember to use specific details, examples, and *good* reasons that support directly your explanations and observations; do not wander off topic. This assignment is due on _____ .

Specs:

- Format:** Standard Composition
- Margins:** 1 inch, top, bottom, left, right
- Alignment:** Left or fully justified
- Indents:** Variable
- Paragraph margins:** Variable
- Line Spacing:** Variable
- Font:** Times New Roman, Arial; 9- to 12-pt.
- Title:** YES
- Turn in all parts of process:** YES

- Citations Page:** NO
- Name, period, date placement:** Upper right corner
- Name, period, date line spacing:** Single
- Illustrations / pictures:** Required, 2 minimum
- Extra space between paragraphs:** NO
- Save copies on your flash drive:** YES
- Title Specs:** Assigned fonts; 14- or 16-pt.; centered
- Title Note:** 1 or 2 blank lines between title and body
- How to turn in:** Hard copies only