

High School Sample Prompt

Conventions

Adults have influence on young people's lives. Think about the qualities demonstrated by adults that you admire.

Write an essay explaining the most important qualities demonstrated by adults that you admire.

Your essay should include:

- An introduction, body, and conclusion.
- An explanation of the qualities.
- Specific, appropriate details.

Remember to edit for spelling, grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.

CONVENTIONS

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| <p>6 The writing demonstrates exceptionally strong control of standard writing conventions (e.g., punctuation, spelling, capitalization, paragraph breaks, grammar and usage) and uses them effectively to enhance communication. Errors are so few and so minor that the reader can easily skim right over them unless specifically searching for them. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strong control of conventions; manipulation of conventions may occur for stylistic effect. • strong, effective use of punctuation that guides the reader through the text. • correct spelling, even of more difficult words. • paragraph breaks that reinforce the organizational structure. • correct grammar and usage that contribute to clarity and style. • skill in using a wide range of conventions in a sufficiently long and complex piece. • little or no need for editing. | <p>5 The writing demonstrates strong control of standard writing conventions (e.g., punctuation, spelling, capitalization, paragraph breaks, grammar and usage) and uses them effectively to enhance communication. Errors are so few and so minor that they do not impede readability. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • strong control of conventions. • effective use of punctuation that guides the reader through the text. • correct spelling, even of more difficult words. • paragraph breaks that reinforce the organizational structure. • correct capitalization; errors, if any, are minor. • correct grammar and usage that contribute to clarity and style. • skill in using a wide range of conventions in a sufficiently long and complex piece. • little need for editing. | <p>4 The writing demonstrates control of standard writing conventions (e.g., punctuation, spelling, capitalization, paragraph breaks, grammar and usage). Minor errors, while perhaps noticeable, do not impede readability. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • control over conventions used, although a wide range is not demonstrated. • correct end-of-sentence punctuation, internal punctuation may sometimes be incorrect. • spelling that is usually correct, especially on common words. • basically sound paragraph breaks that reinforce the organizational structure. • correct capitalization; errors, if any, are minor. • occasional lapses in correct grammar and usage; problems are not severe enough to distort meaning or confuse the reader. • moderate need for editing. |
| <p>3 The writing demonstrates limited control of standard writing conventions (e.g., punctuation, spelling, capitalization, paragraph breaks, grammar and usage). Errors begin to impede readability. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some control over basic conventions; the text may be too simple to reveal mastery. • end-of-sentence punctuation that is usually correct; however, internal punctuation contains frequent errors. • spelling errors that distract the reader; misspelling of common words occurs. • paragraphs that sometimes run together or begin at ineffective places. • capitalization errors. • errors in grammar and usage that do not block meaning but do distract the reader. • significant need for editing. | <p>2 The writing demonstrates little control of standard writing conventions. Frequent, significant errors impede readability. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • little control over basic conventions. • many end-of-sentence punctuation errors; internal punctuation contains frequent errors. • spelling errors that frequently distract the reader; misspelling of common words often occurs. • paragraphs that often run together or begin in ineffective places. • capitalization that is inconsistent or often incorrect. • errors in grammar and usage that interfere with readability and meaning. • substantial need for editing. | <p>1 Numerous errors in usage, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation repeatedly distract the reader and make the text difficult to read. In fact, the severity and frequency of errors are so overwhelming that the reader finds it difficult to focus on the message and must reread for meaning. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • very limited skill in using conventions. • basic punctuation (including end-of-sentence punctuation) that tends to be omitted, haphazard, or incorrect. • frequent spelling errors that significantly impair readability. • paragraph breaks that may be highly irregular or so frequent (every sentence) that they bear no relation to the organization of the text. • capitalization that appears to be random. • a need for extensive editing. |

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Writing

The person that I admire

DIRECTIONS: Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

The person that I only admire in my family is my older brother named _____ he's in college. He's the only one that belief in me. But then when ever my borther comes back from college, what he always tells me that IF you want to be like me then you have to do it yourself, your not doing it for any one else your doing it for yourself. But the bust thing thrit I like about my borther is that he's cool, talks to me, helps me out on my school, and he is cool to talk to him about any thing. But the most thing that I keep with in my self is what my brother had said to me was that Miricals Happen ones in while when you belief, only winds can help you fly to reach your goldes and dremms and also the number one thing that he said to me just before he left last week on sunday back to school at UTI in pheonix AZ was that dont Give up and dont let me down, that what my brother said to me so that why I can never let my brother down other wise what ever he said to me and told me that would be awast of time to him and me. IF I don't do my bust in school or any where else but even when I go to the navy he would tell me the same things over. My brother is the only one who belief in me he always tells me that I can do it that's why I can never get bad Grades. I love my borther the person that I admire so much.

Score Point 1 – Writing has errors in spelling, punctuation, and capitalization that distract the reader. There are no paragraph breaks. There is a need for extensive editing. “But the most thing that I keep with in my self is what my brother had said to me was that Miricals Happen ones in while when you belief, only winds can help you fly to reach your goldes and dremms and also the number one thing that he said to me just before he left last week on sunday back to school...was that don't Give up and don't let me down....” is an example of the lack of punctuation and spelling and capitalization errors.

Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

Adults demonstrate a lot important qualities. They show us that it is really hard to be an adult these days. There are a lot of responsibilities that you have when you grow up. You have to work to pay the bills, to put food on the table, and to give us things we need like clothes and shelter.

I'm writing this for all the students to tell them and to let them know that adults do a lot for us. For instance they work to give us shelter and clothes so we won't have to. So we can study and make something of our selves because we have more chances today of making something of our selves than they had in their days. Like parents, they only want the best for us.

Parents do a lot for us. They take care of us and other things. They drive us to where we want to go. Some times they might even let us take the car. That is only if they trust you a lot. They also buy houses for all of us to live in, in meaning the family. It takes a lot of responsibility being a adult to be able to buy homes and cars.

There is really only one thing that I don't get.

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Why do they get to make the laws and rules. They all mostly apply to us. I'm not saying that adults are bad but that they should listen to what we have to say. They don't even listen to us when we try to explain something or tell them something. They think that they know what it is like to live in our time but they don't. It is totally different from their time.

In some way I want to grow up but I also want to stay as a teen. I want to grow up to make a difference in the lives of the other kids and teens but I think I will stay and enjoy my teen years and not try to grow up too fast. So are you going to enjoy your last teen years.

Score Point 2 – Paper has frequent misspellings of common words: “whe”, “nead”, “fore”, “chanses”, “whant”, and “realy”. Many end-of-sentence punctuation errors, as well as internal errors impede readability. The paper has a substantial need for editing.

Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

Adults are a big influence on young people's lives. All most every thing a young person will learn will come from an adult. Some of the things adults influence young people on is personality music types and hobbies.

Adults have a big influence on personality. If your mom and dad are happy and caring people then most likely you will be a happy and caring person also. If they fight all the time then you will most likely fight all the time too.

Adults also influence the type of music you might like if they love country they you might love country.

If they like rock 'n' roll and hate rap then you might like rock'n'roll and hate rap

An adult that is a big influence on my life is my custom hotrod or chopper builder because they can make some thing that looks

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good and make it look even better.
Or because they make some of
the best looking bikes or hot rods from
nothing or a drawing from their
imagination.

I believe who ever you want to be
when you grow up is some one you
should hang out with.

Score Point 3 – Writing has limited control of standard conventions. Errors begin to impede readability. End of sentence punctuation is usually correct, but internal punctuation is often missing: “...adults influence young adults on is personality music types and hobbies.” Misspelling of common words occurs: “conty”, “likly”, and “carring”.

Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

Have you ever wanted to be like someone or had a role model? I bet everyone at sometime in their life has. I'm also sure that most of the time it's someone older than the admirer. Many people, especially adults, have a lot of influence on younger people, their lives, and their decisions.

For example, your parents, what you see them say and do has an influence on you. You may not see it now, but being able to support a family and keep a roof over your head is hard work and dedication. Sooner or later you may see yourself doing the same. Also, you can catch yourself saying things that your parents say. That is an example of how their influence becomes a part of you. Whether it be characteristics that you admire, like hard work and ability to do various things, or some characteristics that you might not like as much.

Now, there are many more adults that can impact you other than your parents. Family can teach you many things. Just

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by hearing about their accomplishments could encourage you to do the same thing. Older siblings and cousin's doings can affect your your decisions, and actions. If you see something that they can do, you might want to prove you can do the same so you repeat what they did.

Many people outside your family can influence you, too. You might meet an older friend or teacher and love who they are or their personality, so you act and do what they do. We have all seen or heard performers and entertainers before. They have a lot of talent that we lack, so again that motivates us to improve ourselves to be more like them. Especially, to really young people, they are vulnerable to a lot of things, and often copy what they see from favorite entertainers. Young girls may dress like favorite singers and actresses. And boys might act and dress like who they idolize.

Everyone can be an influence to you whoever they are. Even if you personally don't know them. They might also have characteristics that you admire and maybe some that you don't. But we should use it to our benefit and to improve ourselves.

Score Point 4 – Paper shows control of standard writing conventions, although a wide range is not demonstrated. Spelling is nearly always correct. Writing employs basically sound paragraph breaks that reinforce the organizational structure. There is a moderate need for editing: “Especially, to really young people, they are vulnerable to a lot of things, and often copy what they see from favorite entertainers” is evidence of grammar and usage problems.

Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

Adults have a lot of influence on young people's lives. Because so many people look up to adults and respect them, they must hold great qualities. The adults I look up to, for example: my mom, dad, friends and teachers all hold great qualities. The most significant qualities that they hold, in my opinion, are being responsible, trustworthy, and intelligent.

My mother, who is one adult I look up to, is very responsible. She holds many great qualities, but her best is being responsible. She takes responsibility for her actions and always seems to know what to do in situations seeming out of her control. I think that I learn a lot from her mainly because I look up to her so much. Because I look up to her so much, I believe her actions have a big influence on me.

I know many adults who are trustworthy including my neighbor who is very trustworthy. She is a really good friend of mine and the only adult I can talk to about anything. She listens to what I have to say, doesn't judge me, and always keeps her word. It is very reassuring to know that there is always someone I can talk to about anything, and everything I say is safe with them. My neighbor, _____, is an awesome person and is lucky to hold such a great quality. I think that because she gives me so much advice, she really has a big impact on my actions and the choices I make.

Finally, the person I look up to the most is my dad. Not only does he hold the qualities of being responsible and trustworthy, along with many others, but he is also very intelligent. Every adult has their flaws and makes mistakes, but what I love about my dad is he is always

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ready to not make the same mistake twice. He has a lot of common sense and when I talk to him I really respect what he has to say. He is very intelligent and I would think he is the person I would least like to disappoint.

These three adults are people I look up to with much adoration. They have awesome personalities and many qualities that make them who they are as individuals. As I grow up, I hope I consist of great qualities like them, and develop as much knowledge and they have. They are basically my mentors and my actions and choices I make reflect off them.

Score Point 5 – The writing demonstrates strong control of standard writing conventions. Errors are generally the result of attempting to use more sophisticated conventions and doing so incorrectly. Paragraph breaks are excellent and support the organizational structure. There is little need for editing. The writer often runs words together (“isvery”, “insituations”, “sومuch”) and should be careful not to do so as it confuses the reader. Also, using words incorrectly causes some problems: “...and develop as much knowledge and they have” and the writer should take care to proofread for these presentation errors.

Writing**DIRECTIONS:** Now write your final copy on the following two pages.**FINAL COPY**

Not many people are worthy of being looked up to. It requires an amount class and dignity that most people just don't possess. That is why there is only one person that truly look up to, my sister.

My sister, Mary, is the best person I will ever know and contains qualities that I can only wish to have. She has intelligence, pride, dignity, honesty, and integrity to boot. Currently, she is attending Cornell, where she will receive her masters degree. She completed her undergraduate work at Harvard, and is hoping to receive the title "Doctor" from Yale. Did I mention all before 24?

I remember a few years ago when I was visiting my sister at Harvard, the atmosphere was amazing. I was looking around at possibly the finest institute for education, caught up in the wonder. It was then that I thought, "I admire the determination and hard work that my sister put forth to attend this school."

That's what I admire the most about my sister, her drive and determination. She works so hard to get where she needs to be to accomplish her next goal, and nothing stops her, let alone stand in her way. If you ask what she wants, there is no pause, no hesitation, she tells you. If it's not what you want to hear, too bad, because it's her plan for her life. She carries herself

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so well and because she has a plan and the credentials to achieve the goal of the plan, she has unimaginable pride. She puts her stamp of approval on every term paper, test, and assignment, because she knows she puts forth the effort to do an exemplary job.

_____ has the best sense of honesty and integrity I have ever seen. She knows what is right, fair, and just, and she isn't afraid to speak up about anything she feels is wrong. For instance, while we were driving down the Gorden State Parkway she missed a tollbooth. Any other person I know would have kept going and made up some tale about how this and that had happened, and weasel out of paying the full three dollars and fifty cents. Gasp. No, not my sister. We turned around at the closest place we could, paid the toll and the fine for running the booth and we were on our way. Sometimes, doing what is right isn't always easy, but it has to be done.

It's reasons like these that make me strive to become a better person with the characteristics and accomplishments of _____. I don't want to be just like her, but I admire her. That's why I am very proud to say she is my sister.

Score Point 6 – The writer uses conventions effectively to enhance communication. Errors are so few and so minor that the reader can easily skim right over them unless specifically searching for them. Internal punctuation, especially overuse of commas, is a punctuation problem. Correct spelling, even of more difficult words allows the reader ease in reading. The paper has a strong, effective use of punctuation that guides the reader through the text.