

# High School Sample Prompt

# Sentence Fluency

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.

## SENTENCE FLUENCY

<p><b>6</b> The writing has an effective flow and rhythm. Sentences show a high degree of craftsmanship, with consistently strong and varied structure that makes expressive oral reading easy and enjoyable. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a natural, fluent sound; it glides along with one sentence flowing effortlessly into the next.</li> <li>• extensive variation in sentence structure, length, and beginnings that add interest to the text.</li> <li>• sentence structure that enhances meaning by drawing attention to key ideas or reinforcing relationships among ideas.</li> <li>• varied sentence patterns that create an effective combination of power and grace.</li> <li>• strong control over sentence structure; fragments, if used at all, work well.</li> <li>• stylistic control; dialogue, if used, sounds natural.</li> </ul>	<p><b>5</b> The writing has an easy flow and rhythm. Sentences are carefully crafted, with strong and varied structure that makes expressive oral reading easy and enjoyable. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a natural, fluent sound; it glides along with one sentence flowing into the next.</li> <li>• variation in sentence structure, length, and beginnings that add interest to the text.</li> <li>• sentence structure that enhances meaning.</li> <li>• control over sentence structure; fragments, if used at all, work well.</li> <li>• stylistic control; dialogue, if used sounds natural.</li> </ul>	<p><b>4</b> The writing flows; however, connections between phrases or sentences may be less than fluid. Sentence patterns are somewhat varied, contributing to ease in oral reading. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a natural sound; the reader can move easily through the piece, although it may lack a certain rhythm and grace.</li> <li>• some repeated patterns of sentence structure, length, and beginnings that may detract somewhat from overall impact.</li> <li>• strong control over simple sentence structures, but variable control over more complex sentences; fragments, if present, are usually effective.</li> <li>• occasional lapses in stylistic control; dialogue, if used, sounds natural for the most part, but may at times sound stilted or unnatural.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3</b> The writing tends to be mechanical rather than fluid. Occasional awkward constructions may force the reader to slow down or reread. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• some passages that invite fluid oral reading; however, others do not.</li> <li>• some variety in sentences structure, length, and beginnings, although the writer falls into repetitive sentence patterns.</li> <li>• good control over simple sentence structures, but little control over more complex sentences; fragments, if present, may not be effective.</li> <li>• sentences which, although functional, lack energy.</li> <li>• lapses in stylistic control; dialogue, if used, may sound stilted or unnatural.</li> </ul>	<p><b>2</b> The writing tends to be either choppy or rambling. Awkward constructions often force the reader to slow down or reread. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• significant portions of the text that are difficult to follow or read aloud.</li> <li>• sentence patterns that are monotonous (e.g., subject-verb or subject-verb-object).</li> <li>• a significant number of awkward, choppy, or rambling constructions.</li> </ul>	<p><b>1</b> The writing is difficult to follow or to read aloud. Sentences tend to be incomplete, rambling, or very awkward. The writing is characterized by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• text that does not invite—and may not even permit—smooth oral reading.</li> <li>• confusing word order that is often jarring and irregular.</li> <li>• sentence structure that frequently obscures meaning.</li> <li>• sentences that are disjointed, confusing, or rambling.</li> </ul>

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

I admire my mom be cause her loving  
 and her trust and her caring and she  
 help people when they need help  
 and she always make lange when I  
 sad she always TALK to me and she  
 Tell that IT IS can be OKY  
 when she having Bad day I told her  
 what happen and she told me  
 what happen and she Best Mom  
 Every had. and That why I admire  
 so much and without I will die  
 without her! and she told me  
 That I can't running away every  
 more because not worth it. the  
 problems I have will go away,  
 and we solve to together whatever  
 IT IS we can solve it!  
 That why I admire her

The end!

**Score Point 1** – The writing is difficult to follow or to read aloud. Sentences are rambling and awkward. Confusing word order is jarring and irregular. "...and she help people when they need help and she always make lange when I sad she always talk tome and..." confuses the reader and must be reread more than once to find meaningful sentence breaks.

## Writing

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

### FINAL COPY

The adults that influence me the most are the NBA players of today. Like Allen Iverson is always telling kids to try harder to become better than the rest of us. What he is basically saying is try to be better than everybody else don't just try to be as good. In life there are two ways to go - the good way & the bad. The good way is going to school go to college get a real job being all that you can be. The bad way is to not put all that knowledge to good use. The thing about most adults that I like the most is the way they never give up on us children and how they push & push us to achieve all of what we were meant to achieve.

**Score Point 2** – Writing is rambling. Sentence patterns are monotonous and they run on and on, encompassing too many ideas. “The good way is going to school go to college get a real job being all that you can be.” Awkward constructions often force the reader to reread.

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

In this essay, I am going to be talking about qualities demonstrated by adults that I admire. It will contain specific details of the qualities.

I admire many qualities demonstrated by adults. Adults today are always going to be there when you need them, whenever, wherever. They always welcome you, which makes young adults ravish knowing that they are welcomed.

Adults are role models for us. They usually talk to young adults who are in special need or just feel like they need to talk to someone. In times like these, those adults have to probe carefully about what the situation is, so they could be apart of it and help. Today their are some boothis open and sometimes certain occasions take place. Just by seeing these faces there, shows they care and want to help. They not only do this for ridicule, but is conspicuous to others. As we become more mature, we as young adults learn from mistakes experienced by adults. For sure each one of us has been through this stage and that gives us a little more information about what should be done. Helping us know our rights and wrongs.

All of this in the end is a fact on my opinion that all adults have a great influence on young people's lives. They are such big supporters, always knowing what to do.

**Writing**

**FINAL COPY**

They provide all the information needed to a situation, whether it is big or not. I myself am glad to have so many adults in my life. They mean a lot to us for their surpass teachings, and as young adults do a lot for us all. You may see many adults in stores, supermarkets, car dealers ect...., and they all vary some may be nice while others mean, but on the inside they know many answers. It is all up to you on who you feel comfortable talking to. Who will open up their minds giving ideas /opinions on what to do or to help. Each and every adult you know are there for you. There are many who you could turn to, especially your parents for advices.

**Score Point 3** – Occasional awkward constructions force the reader to slow down or reread. “Today there are some booths open and sometimes certain occasions take place.” “All of this in the end is a fact on my opinion that all adults have great influence on young peoples lives.” The writing has some variety in sentence structure, length, and beginnings, but often relies on repetitive sentence patterns. There are also has lapses in stylistic control.

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Many adults have demonstrated all sorts of qualities, and have influenced kids in numerous ways. They have showed them to believe in themselves, reach for the stars, also they have showed kids to respect everyone among them.

Adults tell kids several times to believe in themselves for a number of reasons. Mainly because by saying that kids do not give up on themselves as easily. Somehow they will find the strength within them to achieve their goal. Also by telling a kid that, the kid gains more and more confidence in themselves.

"Reach for the stars" is a common phrase you hear adults tell kids time and time again. Now, by saying this, it pretty much means the same thing as saying "Believe in yourself," or does it? Telling a kid this will give them confidence and strength to accomplish their goals, but it also allows them to see that they can do anything they set their minds to. Hearing this phrase gives

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them the will power to strive for success. By trying hard in everything they do will allow them to accomplish many things in life.

Of course you can not forget the famous "Treat people the way you want to be treated." Adults tell kids millions of times to respect everyone among them; even though you may not like all of them. Respect is a big deal; however, not everyone agrees with it.

**Score Point 4** – The writing flows; however, connections between phrases or sentences are less than fluid. "By trying hard in everything they do will allow them to accomplish many things in life." This lack of fluidity interrupts the natural pacing for reading aloud. Sentence patterns are somewhat varied, but there is lack of control over complex sentences, mainly as a result of the less than fluid connections mentioned above.

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

Kids believe it or not, actually pay attention. They learn, and can decide for themselves, who they want to act like. Adults are the most influential teachers we have in the world. Whether it's a sports hero or a movie star, the choices they make and the qualities they show, can often affect those who are watching them. Even when they think they aren't being watched.

Good judgment, in any case, is a great quality for adults to have. They should know whether or not to let their son/daughter stay out on a school night. Little decisions such as this make a huge difference in a child's life. Especially when it becomes time for them to raise their own kid. When a parent lacks the ability to say, "No," because they don't want to hurt their kid's feelings, the kid thinks that their parent just doesn't care or lets them get away with anything. Children need good parents more than they need "cool" moms or dads.

No hatred or bigotry should be present in adults. The reason why hate has lasted so long is because parents have taught their children to not connect with this race or that religion. This gets us nowhere. Adults should realize that every decision they make can affect a kid in many ways. This quality is very important and effective in adults.

As previously stated, children are always watching. Every thing an adult does or doesn't do will shape them to be the person they are to become. If an adult hates, they are

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taught to hate. If an adult is funny and loving, they  
are taught that smell. That is why important qualities  
such as good judgment or kindness is so important.  
They will form the new generation. Kids do pay attention.

**Score Point 5** – Writing is made up of sentences with strong and varied structure. Expressive oral reading is easy and enjoyable. “Whether it’s a sports hero or a movie star, the choices they make and the qualities they show, can often affect those who are watching them.” There is variation in sentence structure, length, and beginnings that add interest to the text. Fragments work well. “Even when they think they aren’t being watched.”

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

Growing up, most children have someone they look up to. There is something in that certain individual that catches the child's attention. I am no different than any other child. I've grown up having many role models. I look up to different people as my plans for life change, but the qualities I see in them remain the same. Some qualities I admire in adults are perseverance, honesty, and good listening skills.

Throughout my life, music has always been extremely important and a part of everyday. My parents are very supportive and tell me to follow my dreams of having a musical career. They have also shown this quality of perseverance. My father has gone through many jobs and still has yet to find one he actually enjoys. However, he isn't giving up. My mother dropped out of college at the age of nineteen to take care of my oldest brother. Now she is back in school fulfilling her dream of becoming a nurse. Other adults I have known have always said to keep trying and keep going for what you want. They have all demonstrated this by working for and achieving their goals.

Most people will tell you that adults are liars. While this could be true, I find it to be false. Many adults I know are very honest. If they make a mistake, they admit it and try to make things right. If I ask them how they are, they tell me the truth and don't just ignore me.

**Writing****FINAL COPY**

I hope to have that kind of honesty and admit when I am wrong. It is a hard quality to have in our society yet it is also a very essential one.

Lastly, the best quality I find in many adults is they are willing to listen and help. When I have a problem, I know at least three adults who would help me. They would listen to me and give me advice. They would treat me as an equal, not a child. Also, if I make a bad choice, they wouldn't let it slide. But they would let me tell my side of the story then give an example of something similar they did when they were younger. With these adults, I can talk about anything because they see me as their friend. I admire this a lot and want to be like that when I am an adult. It is important for teenagers and children to have an adult they can talk to.

Adults have many good qualities. Some I find in adults I know are perseverance, honesty, and listening. These qualities help me see what is good in the world and that there are adults I can trust. When I grow up and even now, I hope to have these qualities and be there for my friends and younger children.

**Score Point 6** – Sentences show a high degree of craftsmanship, with consistently strong and varied structure. Reading aloud reveals the effective flow and rhythm. There is strong control over sentence structure. The writer uses short, simple sentences as effectively as more complex structures. “I am no different than any other child.” and “I look up to different people as my plans for life change, but the qualities I see in them remain the same.”