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Grade 8 Essay Prompts for Workshop 5

College Go Workshop 5 in the Grade 8 Early Award Scholarship Program is designed to provide students with a mock college application experience. Students will write a one page (200-250 word) essay using one of three prompts from the Common College Application essay prompts. Students will have successfully completed Workshop 5 if their essays are graded at 70% or higher.

Teachers should prepare students for this writing assignment as they normally would with prewriting strategies and discussion. Suggestions for pre-writing would be to have students read other college essays and do pair & share to generate ideas. If teachers choose to reword the essay prompts, they may choose alternative wording without changing the basic intent of the prompt.

Any writing rubric is permissible by the teacher as long as the 70% pass rate is used.

The essay workshop should be completed during the 3rd 9 weeks. We would like to have the top essays selected by the teacher. The winners will receive a certificate and will be awarded \$25.00 in his or her Early Award Scholarship Fund. The names of the winners are due to the Community Foundation at the end of the third quarter when teacher sheets are turned in.



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Students: Please choose one of the three following prompts to write a one page essay of 200-250 words as a part of your "mock" college application process. These essay prompts will be similar to one you may have to write for scholarship or college applications.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.

2. The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?

3. Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?

Tips for writing a successful essay:

- 1. Brainstorm ideas with a friend or by yourself.
- 2. Draft your essay with an introduction, body and conclusion.
- 3. Have others read and edit your essay looking for grammatical or structural errors.
- 4. Revise and polish your essay before submitting it by the due date.