

Prompt-Think-Thesis Writing Module

Student Booklet

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SB#1: Engage Prior Knowledge—Silent Warm-Up

Directions: Silently answer the questions below. Write as much as you can, even if you're not sure your answer is correct.

1. When you get an essay assignment, what is the first thing you do?

2. What else should you do in order to make sure you understand the essay assignment?

SB#2: Practice—Teacher-Provided Prompt

Essay prompt:
Respond to the essay prompt that your teacher provides.

- 1) **Prompt:** Underline what you will do.
- 2) **Think:** Circle the key words that you think are important. Think about the key words together.

Key words	What do they mean?	What are my thoughts?
1)		
2)		
3)		

- 3) **Thesis:** Write your thesis for your essay.

Does my thesis state my opinion on the underlined topic? (yes / no)

Does my thesis tie together the key words? (yes / no)

SB#3: Practice—Alternate Essay Prompt

Alternate Essay Prompt:

Read the information in the box below.

Albert Einstein once said that a person who never made a mistake had never tried anything new.

Many people see mistakes as signs of failure, but others see mistakes as an essential part of growing, learning, or making progress.

Write an essay explaining whether mistakes are an essential part of life.

- 1) **Prompt:** Underline what you will do.
- 2) **Think:** Circle the key words that you think are important. Think about the key words together.

Key words	What do they mean?	What are my thoughts?
1)		
2)		
3)		

- 3) **Thesis:** Write your thesis for your essay.

Does my thesis state my opinion on the underlined topic? (yes / no)

Does my thesis tie together the key words? (yes / no)

Scoring:	
	Points earned (circle one):
Steps	0 1 2 3
Prompt	0 3
Think	0 3
Thesis	0 3
Total points (out of 12):	<input type="text"/>

Name: _____

Date: _____

SB#4: Independent Practice

Part 1: Review the Strategy

Explain each of the three steps in Prompt-Think-Thesis:

Prompt: _____

Think: _____

Thesis: _____

Part 2: Apply the Strategy

Directions: Read the essay prompt and complete the Prompt-Think-Thesis steps on the next page.

SB#4: Independent Practice (cont.)

Essay prompt:

Read the information in the box below.

Apple Computers founder Steve Jobs once said that he thought people, as individuals, were basically good, but that he had slightly more negative thoughts about the way people are when they are in groups.

People sometimes behave differently when they are alone, compared to how they act when they are with a group.

Write an essay explaining whether being with a group changes people's behavior.

1) Prompt: Underline what you will do.

2) Think: Circle the key words that you think are important. Think about the key words together.

Key words	What do they mean?	What are my thoughts?
1)		
2)		
3)		

3) Thesis: Write your thesis for your essay.

Does my thesis state my opinion on the underlined topic? (yes / no)

Does my thesis tie together the key words? (yes / no)