

NoRedInk Daily Quick Write Challenge

Teacher Plan

It's important for students to keep their writing skills sharp with daily practice. To that end, we're introducing our Quick Write Challenge to spark students' creativity and encourage them to write at least 15 minutes every day.

In the pages that follow, we've provided 55 short, fun writing prompts—enough for 11 weeks of daily writing.

- **If your students will write in NoRedInk:** Simply click the links below to create Quick Write assignments.
- **If your students will do their writing offline:** Share this [Daily Quick Write Challenge pdf](#) with students.

Of course, feel free to write your own prompts (or check out our full [prompt library](#)), switch up the order, or change our time recommendations as you see fit!

Note: If you think your students would prefer to write about COVID-19, we've included [a section](#) at the end with a few reflective prompts.

Week 1 Prompts

Day 1: Soundtrack of Your Life

If you could create a soundtrack for your life, what songs would you include and why? Discuss at least two songs and explain why you picked them.

Assign

Day 2: Flight or Invisibility?

Would you rather be able to fly or turn invisible? Why? What would you do with your power? What problems would having this power cause?

Assign

Day 3: If... Then...

Write a story made up entirely of if-then sentences. Start your story with "If it rains today, then I'll wear my yellow jacket," and end with "If that song repeats one more time, then I'll start doing cartwheels." How do these two if-then scenarios tie together?

Assign

Day 4: Agree or Disagree?

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "Imagination is more important than knowledge." Write a paragraph explaining your position.

Assign

Day 5: An Explanation for Aliens

Imagine you're exploring space and you come across aliens who have never been to Earth. How would you describe money to them? Write a paragraph describing what money looks like, what it is used for, and how it can make people act.

Assign

 **Week 2 Prompts****Day 6: What Would You Make Free?**

If you could make one thing (an item or a service) in the world free of charge to everyone, what would you choose and why? How would this change the world?

[Assign](#)**Day 7: Jingle Challenge**

Write a jingle to advertise your favorite dessert to the tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.” What is so special about your dessert? How can you describe it in a memorable, catchy way?

[Assign](#)**Day 8: Changing Places**

Pick a celebrity or famous figure you admire and imagine swapping places with this person for the day. What would you do? Write a story about your day.

[Assign](#)**Day 9: Missing Character**

Describe a new character you would add to your favorite book, television show, or movie. What does your character look like? What would the character’s role be? How would your character get along with the existing characters?

[Assign](#)**Day 10: Diary of a Shoe**

Write a diary entry from the perspective of a well-worn shoe. Imagine it’s been the most exciting day of your life. Describe what happened, what you noticed, and how you are feeling.

[Assign](#) **Week 3 Prompts****Day 11: What’s Behind the Door?**

Write a suspenseful scene that starts like this: “The floorboards creaked as I crept down the hallway. My heart thumping, I reached for the door knob.”

[Assign](#)**Day 12: Nine Lines**

Write a nine-line poem with nine words in the first line, eight words in the second line, and so forth, until the last line has only one word. Feel free to write about anything you’d like, but challenge yourself to stick to the structure! If you’re not sure where to start, try thinking of that last word first.

[Assign](#)**Day 13: Thank You Letter**

Think of someone who has made an impact on your life but might not know it. Write a thank you letter explaining how this person has helped you.

[Assign](#)**Day 14: The Fairy Tale Times**

Write a short news article based on a scene from a fairy tale. First, present a headline, like “Party Guests Shocked as Carriage Turns Into Pumpkin” (from Cinderella). Then, report what happened, including quotes from eyewitnesses.

[Assign](#)**Day 15: A Trip to the Future**

Imagine you’re going to time travel 100 years into the future. Describe what you expect to see and do on your trip. How do you predict life will be different?

[Assign](#)

Week 4 Prompts

Day 16: A Snapshot from My Life

Find a photo that means something to you (on your phone, in a photo album, or online). Describe the scene in the photo, then tell the story behind it. Explain where and when the photo is from and why it's important to you.

Assign

Day 17: A Superhero's Day Off

Imagine you're a superhero on your day off. You just want to have a relaxing day, but you get called to the rescue for a silly request. What happens next? Describe the scene.

Assign

Day 18: Counting "Likes": Positive or Negative?

Should Instagram and other social media sites display exactly how many "likes" a post receives? Write a paragraph arguing whether counting "likes" has a more positive or negative impact on users.

Assign

Day 19: Cartoon Clothes

Cartoon characters often wear the same outfit at all times (think SpongeBob SquarePants or Scrooge McDuck!), and their clothes give the audience clues about their personalities. If you were a cartoon character, what would you wear? Describe your outfit and explain what it would say about you.

Assign

Day 20: Play-by-Play

Visualize yourself doing an everyday activity like washing dishes or brushing your teeth. Now, describe the scene the way a sports commentator would, making every action sound as dramatic as possible.

Assign

Week 5 Prompts

Day 21: Bad Plans

Write the beginning of a fictional story that starts with this line: "This was the last time I would agree to one of Greg's plans." (Feel free to swap out "Greg" for a different name!)

Assign

Day 22: Time Capsule

Imagine you've dug up a time capsule that you buried five years ago. What would be inside? Describe at least three items from the time capsule and explain what each one meant to you five years ago. Would the items still be important to you now?

Assign

Day 23: Robot Assistant

If you had a robot as a personal assistant, what tasks or activities would you want it to help you with? What tasks would you prefer to do without your robot's help? Explain your thinking.

Assign

Day 24: Song Review

Write a review of a song you've heard recently. Explain what you like or dislike about the song, including details about both the music and the lyrics. Who would you recommend this song to?

Assign

Day 25: Mind Your Phone Manners

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "If you're with your friends, you should avoid checking your phone." Write a paragraph to persuade others of your opinion.

Assign

 **Week 6 Prompts****Day 26: I've Got a Deal for You**

Choose an object in the room you're in. Now, imagine you're a salesperson trying to convince someone to buy it. Describe the object, making it sound as interesting, beautiful, or useful as possible.

[Assign](#)**Day 27: Talker or Listener?**

Would you rather be known for always saying the right thing, or for being a good listener? Explain why.

[Assign](#)**Day 28: Is It or Isn't It?**

Is a hotdog a sandwich, or not? Explain your position.

[Assign](#)**Day 29: Rewind**

Imagine you had the ability to rewind life for ten minutes at a time. How would you use this power? Would this ability be more dangerous or helpful for yourself and others? Explain your answer.

[Assign](#)**Day 30: Doggy Mail**

Pretend you're a dog, and write an email to another dog about everything you saw, smelled, heard, touched, and tasted during a recent trip to the park.

[Assign](#) **Week 7 Prompts****Day 31: A Brand New Holiday**

If you could invent a holiday to celebrate anything—such as a favorite food, one of your role models, or a historic event—what would you celebrate? How and why should others observe your invented holiday?

[Assign](#)**Day 32: Act of Kindness**

Write a paragraph about an act of kindness you participated in or experienced during the past month. Describe what happened, and explain how you felt after.

[Assign](#)**Day 33: Based on a Book**

Write a letter to convince a production company like Netflix or Disney to turn one of your favorite books or video games into a TV show. Why would this book or game make an enjoyable series? Who should play the main characters? Which part of the book or game would you be most excited to watch?

[Assign](#)**Day 34: A Day in a Fictional World**

Imagine being suddenly transported to a fictional world from a book, movie, or television show for one day. Tell the story of what happens to you over the course of the day. Include details about the places you visit and the people you meet.

[Assign](#)**Day 35: How Embarrassing!**

What's something that you used to like or do that you now find slightly embarrassing? Why do you think your feelings have changed?

[Assign](#)

 **Week 8 Prompts****Day 36: Character Dance-Off**

Imagine a dance-off between two of your favorite TV or cartoon characters. Write a paragraph describing the scene. Include details about the music, the dance moves, and who wins.

[Assign](#)**Day 37: Fictional Review**

Think about a fictional business (like the Leaky Cauldron inn from the world of Harry Potter or Willy Wonka's chocolate factory). Pretend you're a customer and write a Yelp review of the business. Describe what was good or bad about the employees, the location, and your experience.

[Assign](#)**Day 38: What's Your Advice?**

If you could give one piece of advice to a character from your favorite book or movie, what would you say and why?

[Assign](#)**Day 39: Experiences or Possessions?**

Would you rather receive an object (like an item of clothing or an electronic device) or an experience (like tickets to a concert or sports game) as a gift? Why?

[Assign](#)**Day 40: Your Opposite**

Invent a character who is the exact opposite of you. Imagine that you meet this character one day while reaching for the same item in the grocery store. Describe what happens in a way that reveals the differences between the two of you.

[Assign](#) **Week 9 Prompts****Day 41: Hero or Villain?**

If you were playing a lead role in a movie, would you rather play a hero or a villain? Write a paragraph explaining what you would do in this role and why you would be good at it.

[Assign](#)**Day 42: How to Improve Your Mood**

What's your favorite activity to do when you want to cheer yourself up? Briefly describe the activity and explain how it improves your mood.

[Assign](#)**Day 43: Animal Description**

Pick an animal and list the first three words that come to your mind when you think of it. Then, write a description that makes it clear which animal you picked without using its name or any of those three words.

[Assign](#)**Day 44: Ten Years Older**

Imagine waking up tomorrow morning and suddenly being ten years older. How would you feel about it? What two things would you do first?

[Assign](#)**Day 45: My Rules**

Imagine you could create two new rules that everyone in your home has to follow. These rules can be as serious or silly as you want. What changes would you make, and why?

[Assign](#)



Week 10 Prompts

Day 46: A Pocket Story

Start a story with this line: "In my pocket, I had a candy wrapper, a ticket stub, and my uncle's credit card." What happens next?

Assign

Day 47: Amazing Nature

What is the most amazing thing you have seen in nature or outdoors? Describe the experience and use details to paint a picture of what you saw for your reader.

Assign

Day 48: Star Player or Winning Team

Would you rather be the best player on a struggling sports team or the least skilled player on a great team? Explain your choice.

Assign

Day 49: Wish Mishap

Imagine a genie granted you a magic wish, but events didn't turn out the way you expected them to. Tell the story of what you wished for and what went wrong.

Assign

Day 50: Everyone Should Read This

Imagine you want to convince your English teacher to assign your favorite book for the whole class to read. Write a paragraph presenting your argument for why your classmates would like this book and what they could learn from it.

Assign



Week 11 Prompts

Day 51: All or None?

Would you rather have to listen to music all the time, or never be able to listen to music at all? Why?

Assign

Day 52: Video Calls for Beginners

Write a rhyme to teach an adult who's intimidated by technology how to make a video call. If you're not sure where to start, try having your lines rhyme with "call."

Assign

Day 53: New Teacher

Imagine this: you walk into your classroom on the first day of school to discover that your favorite fictional character is your new teacher! Describe what happens during the day.

Assign

Day 54: Making a Museum

If you created your own museum about one of your interests, what would you put in it? Write a paragraph describing the exhibits or items in your museum. Explain what you would want visitors to learn from their visit.

Assign

Day 55: Pleasant Surprise

Write a paragraph that starts like this: "I've never been more pleasantly surprised than when...." Feel free to make your paragraph as light-hearted or serious as you'd like.

Assign



Prompts for Reflecting on COVID-19

Note: While some students may welcome a distraction from the coronavirus pandemic, others may want to write about their feelings during this unprecedented time. You know your students best. If you think your students will want to write about how COVID-19 is affecting their lives, we've included the following reflective prompts.

Response to the News

Write a response to a news article, a social media post, a text message, or a comment you've heard, read, or seen about COVID-19 in the past day. Do you agree with it or disagree with it, and why? What questions do you have? What emotions or thoughts does it bring up for you?

Assign

Personal Reflection

What are you thinking, feeling, and doing in response to the COVID-19 outbreak? Write a stream-of-consciousness paragraph to try to capture what's in your head right now.

Assign

School Closure Reflection

With school closed, what have been the best and worst parts about having no school for an extended period of time? List specific pros and cons and explain what's good or bad about each one.

Assign