



**Higher Education
Narrative
Prompt Catalog**

Higher Education Narrative Prompt Catalog

Below each prompt title is the number of sources. Zeros denote prompts that are not research or source dependent. Zeros also indicate when the number of sources is unknown or unspecified (i.e., recommends but does not require sources, or requires research by the student (and/or teacher)).

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The Editor's Note provides an overview of the content for this catalog and brief descriptions of the index and appendices included herein.

Editor's Note

Statement of Purpose and Alignment

This catalog provides a list of all of the Narrative prompts that are currently active in MY Access!® and available for use at the Higher Education level. Each prompt aligns to Common Core and State educational standards and assessment practices expected of Higher Education students for the Narrative writing genres. All prompts also align to the educational standards outlined in our rubrics and writing genres, which in turn align to the National and State education standards. Each genre was re-evaluated and updated in accordance with current academic standards and practices to better serve teachers and students. As a result of this and the MY Access!® redesign, several prompts previously found in other genres have been moved to account for these shifts in educational standards and to provide a more accurate representation of the prompts in the system. Please refer to the list of migrated prompts available in the MY Access!® Resource and Training Center to locate prompts that recently moved to other genres, or contact our staff for further assistance in locating specific prompts in the system.

Catalog Overview

The catalog provides an overview of each prompt in the system. Each catalog entry provides the title of the prompt and the text of the prompt task. The catalog entry only includes the prompt task and basic data related to the prompt. Sources and our in-house specific genre-based prompt instructions are not included. These are accessible in the system for each prompt. However, wherever possible and if applicable, a list of source titles, authors, and data are provided for each prompt entry.

Lexile level data provides a basic reference for the textual complexity levels found in particular sources. This data features in each prompt entry as both a range (from lowest to highest level, or approximate level, for a prompt's sources) and a specific value (if known or available). Only text-based sources include a Lexile level. Any multimedia source, such as a video, audio clip, map, or chart, will feature a Lexile reading of 'N/A' in the system for 'not applicable.' Teachers are encouraged to perform their own assessment of any Lexile levels provided for sources and to assess each prompt to ensure the content is appropriate for your students. All genres include prompts with and without sources. The quantity and complexity of sources varies according to education standards in each grade band.

A Note about Sources

The catalog lists details about the sources for a particular prompt when known. Sources are considered unknown when a prompt only recommends rather than requires particular sources, or requires students (and/or teachers) to research and provide their own sources. In these cases, a prompt will list a zero as the number of sources. However, this does not necessarily mean the prompt does not include, require, or recommend sources. It merely means the actual source number is unknown or specific sources are not provided. Sometimes a zero source number does simply mean the prompt does not require, need, or provide sources. Some prompts specify a required number of sources to use, while others do not. Each prompt entry in the catalog records the number of sources (if known), Lexile levels (if applicable and/or known), source titles and authors, and notes pertaining to the types of sources used in the prompt. Each Table of Contents entry includes the title of a prompt, whether it is IntelliMetric™ or Pilot, and the number of sources. Source notes provide explanation as to why certain sources were not included directly in the prompt, most often due to copyright regulations and/or length of the source. Other source notes specify if a prompt is source-based, quotation-based, or research-based. Quotations, even if integrated into the prompt task as a stepping off point, are included in the catalog as a source.

Index and Appendices

New features in the catalogs include the Index and Appendices section found at the end of each catalog. The purpose of these sections is to provide a list of prompt titles at a glance that are specifically source-based, quotation-based, and research-based, as well as a list of titles for prompts that do not require sources or evidence-based research. New features are planned for subsequent publications of the catalogs to make viewing and accessing prompts easier for teachers.

IntelliMetric™ Prompts

A Memorable Childhood Event

Prompt Source(s):	0	Source Lexile Range:	N/A
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Think of a childhood event that you remember vividly. It might be the first time you rode on a school bus, the day you played in an important Little League game, the day you learned to ride a bike, or another memorable event.

Write a story telling about the event. Describe what happened and explain why it was so memorable. Tell your story in an interesting way to engage the reader. Remember to make sure the reader has enough details about your experience so they can picture it in their mind.

Bad Things Lead to Good

Prompt Source(s):	0	Source Lexile Range:	N/A
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We have all encountered bad situations in our lives that later turned out to lead to good things. Think of a time when a bad situation actually resulted in a good outcome. What happened? What did you learn from this experience?

Write an essay about a bad situation that you have encountered that later turned out positively and what you learned from the experience.

Time Spent with a Famous Person

Prompt Source(s):	0	Source Lexile Range:	N/A
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You have been given the chance to spend a day with a famous person of your choosing. This person may be a character from a book, a movie, television or some other source. Why did you choose the person you did? Why is meeting with this person important to you?

Write a narrative about the time you spent with the famous person you have chosen.

Pilot Prompts

Cheering Couple

Prompt Source(s):	1	Source Lexile Range:	N/A
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Source One: "Suited Couple" Provided by Vantage Learning
Source Lexile Level: N/A

[Click here to view the source\(s\) for this prompt.](#)

Every picture tells a story. Use your imagination and experience to write a story about the picture. Be sure to develop your characters, setting, plot, conflict, and resolution.

Life Is...

Prompt Source(s):	1 <i>quot.</i>	Source Lexile Range:	N/A
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Turbulence is a life force. Let's love turbulence and use it for change.

—Anonymous

We think a happy life consists in tranquility of mind.

—Cicero

Consider the two statements about life. Which statement do you think most closely agrees with your perspective on life? Do you embrace turbulence, or do you seek tranquility?

Write a personal narrative in which you discuss the meaning of these statements with respect to your life. Be sure to support your narrative with experiences and observations drawn from your life.

Index for Source-based and Non-source-based Prompts

The appendices that follow provide lists of prompts with different types of sources. These appendices are intended to assist teachers in more easily identifying and locating prompts in the catalog. Each appendix includes only the titles of prompts from this catalog. Prompts are arranged in alphabetical order in the catalog by type (IntelliMetric™ or Pilot), as indicated in the Table of Contents. The appendices are divided into two main categories: source-based (including research-based and quotation-based prompts) and non-source-based prompts. The first three appendices are for source-based prompts; the last appendix is for non-source-based prompts. The following are notes pertaining to the definitions and content specifications of source-based and non-source based prompts.

Source-based Prompts:

- Source-based prompts are research-based and often require sources (whether specified or not) and include quotation-based writing tasks.
- Some source-based prompts provide or indicate specific sources while others require students and/or teachers to conduct their own research to address a prompt topic.
- Quotation-based prompts require reference to, analysis of, and/or interpretation of a particular quotation.
 - Most quotation-based prompts integrate quotations into the prompt task rather than offer the quotation as a separate source.
 - Quotations are typically too brief compared to most sources or excerpts from works that are more extensive; thus they are usually not considered a formal ‘source’ for students to use in addressing a prompt task.
 - To prevent inaccuracy, Lexile levels for quotations are not provided due to the brevity of most quotations.
- The types of sources used in source-based prompts vary greatly by prompt and can include multimedia and text-based sources.

Non-source-based Prompts:

- Non-source-based prompts do not require or necessitate research and/or source-based evidence to complete the writing task.
- Most non-source-based prompts are typically knowledge, experience, and/or opinion-based prompt tasks.

Appendix I: Source-based Prompts (Sources Provided)

IntelliMetric™

N/A¹

Pilot

Cheering Couple

1. This type of prompt is not available at this time in MY Access!®. However, new prompts and IntelliMetric™ models are in development. Check back frequently for updates!

Appendix II: Source-based Prompts (Sources Not Provided)

IntelliMetric™

N/A¹

Pilot

N/A¹

1. This type of prompt is not available at this time in MY Access!®. However, new prompts and IntelliMetric™ models are in development. Check back frequently for updates!

Appendix III: Quotation-based Prompts

IntelliMetric™

N/A¹

Pilot

Life Is...

1. This type of prompt is not available at this time in MY Access!®. However, new prompts and IntelliMetric™ models are in development. Check back frequently for updates!

Appendix IV: Non-source-based Prompts (Sources Not Required)

IntelliMetric™

A Memorable Childhood Event
Bad Things Lead to Good
Time Spent with a Famous Person

Pilot

N/A¹

1. This type of prompt is not available at this time in MY Access!®. However, new prompts and IntelliMetric™ models are in development. Check back frequently for updates!