

PROMPTS FOR THE THREE WEEKS

You will not force the students to magnify & brainstorm. You have taught these concepts, and now with no graphic organizers furnished, some students will sketch this out on their own paper, and some won't. Tell the students before the beginning of the three weeks that if they are given a really wide prompt, you want them to magnify down twice; if given a somewhat wide prompt, to magnify down at least once before they begin; and, if the prompt is narrow they do not need to magnify down. Remind them that if it helps them to organize their paper, they may want to draw a brainstorming graphic organizer on their own paper. However, the bottom line of these three weeks is that **the student is the author, and can write in their own way.** You will grade the papers each week and give individual students feedback and suggestions on "tools" they should use the next week. You may tell one student that the following week he/she needs to consider magnifying after getting the prompt; and you may tell another student who did not web enough that he/she needs to do rainbow revision on their rough draft before they write the final draft, etc. All students will not need to do all of the same steps in order to write a good paper. Some students will write a straight narrative, others will write a how-to sandwiched in a narrative, others will write other combinations. You, as the teacher, have given them all of the tools, now you have to step back and see which ones they will use.

Prompt for Week #1: You and your best friend get to spend two hours together next Saturday. Your friend wants to go rollerblading. You want to go swimming. Write a story about what happens.

Prompt for Week #2: Your mom has purchased a new tent. You have convinced her that you do not want to wait for the next "real" camping trip to use it. She has agreed that you can have a few friends over and "camp" in your backyard, as long as you and your friends do all of the work. Tell what happens.

Prompt for Week #3: Your best friend is moving away. The last sleep over you have together is spent remembering all of the fun times you have had together. You talk about the time you built a tree house together. You laugh about the time you spent a whole Saturday afternoon making your little sister tell you all of the good things and bad things about having a big brother, telling her you were doing "research." You remember the time the two of you persuaded your principal to have a Friday night "lock in" at your school. Write a story about one of these good times.