

RAMP-UP TO ADVANCED LITERACY

# Writing Prompts

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## UNIT ONE: DILEMMAS OF YOUTH



AMERICA'S CHOICE  
RAMP-UP TO LITERACY™

# Writing Prompt I

One of the goals of classroom read-alouds is to help you develop the habits of good readers so you do not have to think about reading while you are reading. Eventually, you will get so good at it that you will do it well. Think about some things that you practice so often that they have become habits that you are good at, like shooting hoops, playing an instrument, making food, or styling hair. Describe something that you do with regularity that you do really well. What do you enjoy about it?

## Writing Prompt II

Write about an interesting image that you have seen recently. Describe it in detail. What about it caught your attention? What did the image represent or portray? Where did you see it?

## Writing Prompt III

What is the most interesting thing you have read in your independent reading book this week? Explain why you think it is interesting.

## Writing Prompt IV

In *Swallowing Stones*, both of the major characters—Michael and Jenna—have close friends on whom they depend. Who are your closest friends? When did you become friends? Why do you think you became friends? What do you like best about your closest friends?

## Writing Prompt V

Write about what you thought of the conclusion of *Swallowing Stones*. Were you surprised when Michael found Jenna at the Ghost Tree? Why or why not? If you could ask the author a question about the story, what would you ask?

## Writing Prompt VI

If you knew it would be published, what kind of story or book would you write? What kind of audiences would you write for?

## Writing Prompt VII

Reflect on what you liked about participating in the mock trial and explain why. If you did not enjoy the experience, write about it and explain why.

## Writing Prompt VIII

Have you ever wanted to convince your parents or guardians to let you do something or go somewhere? What did you say or do to try to persuade them? What kind of argument did you make? What evidence did you use? Were you able to persuade them?

## Writing Prompt IX

Write about something significant that you have done, heard about, or read about recently. What made it seem significant to you?