

Lend Me Your Ears

Prompt Sequence: Grade: 10 | Genre: Informative

This nine-week prompt sequence focuses on the clear and effective communication of ideas in informative writing. Grade 10 students will utilize prompts from our Signal Check and Spot Check libraries to brainstorm, write, and revise essays on a variety of meaningful topics. Exemplar Essays and activities from our Expansion Pack Library and Curriculum Resources page underscore the importance of organization, topic development, and language choice in strong informative writing.

Week 1: Diagnostic

Use **Call or Text** in Spot Check as a diagnostic writing task to get a baseline regarding students' starting levels in each trait.

Week 2: Review

Print and discuss the **Call or Text** Exemplar Essays. Utilize exemplar activities with students to illustrate and define key elements of successful informative writing.

Week 3: Preparation

Use the Assignment Report to see where students struggled on the diagnostic. Prepare students for their formative assignment by leading an Expansion Pack activity aimed at improving weaker areas.

Week 4: Formative Assignment

Use Signal Check to assign **Martin** for students to practice informative writing skills and receive actionable feedback on their writing.

Week 5: Skill Building

Use the assignment report to see where students struggled in their formative assignment. Prepare an Expansion Pack Activity that addresses weaker areas.

Week 6: Preparation

Prepare an Expansion Pack activity that will support students in their essay clarity, organization, or language. Additionally, model and offer support and tools for students when reading more challenging prompts and sources.

Week 7: Formative Assignment

Use Signal Check to assign **Driverless Cars** for students to practice learned informative writing skills and receive actionable feedback on their writing.

Week 8: Skill Solidifying

Use the Assignment Report to see where students struggled on their formative assignment. Implement activities from the Expansion Pack aimed at addressing weaker areas in order to prepare students for their culminating writing task.

Week 9: Culminating Writing Task

Assign **Civil Rights** in Spot Check as a culminating writing task to check on the students' progress on the skills of this unit of study.

