

CRITICAL THINKING WRITING PROMPTS

- +If you were the lone survivor in a helicopter crash in a large forest, what would you do? (No radio, phone is broken, you expect at least 2 days before a rescue, no fire caused by impact of the helicopter) How would you survive?
- +If you were stranded on an island in the South Pacific (with no communication equipment), how would you survive? (There are coconuts, palm trees, and some fruit trees, even with vines)
- +How should you deal with a stubborn child? What about a stubborn adult?
- +What is more important, Love or Money? Can one be used to get the other?
- +Are governments doing enough about the environment? Explain your answer.
- +Many students encounter stress in college. How do you cope with stress? Could you do more? What would you do?
- +What kinds of technologies do you think that we will have in the future? Explain.
- +How should we deal with homeless individuals in our society? What about homeless families?
- +How should we deal with the increasing numbers of people without healthcare?
- +How do you motivate someone to work hard? What might you do in a supervisory role?
- +What does the phrase "Living simply" mean to you?
- +If we abolish money, what kinds of things would we have to think about?
- +Would you pay higher taxes if everyone in the country were able to have a home, food, clothing, and medical/dental care? Why or why not?
- +Name one person who you trust. What qualities/characteristics does this person possess?
- +Name one thing which makes you angry. Why? How angry does it make you?
- +Is the freedom of press a good thing? Why or why not? What about the freedom of privacy?
- +There are two types of living conditions: Urban (city living) and Rural (non-city living). Which do you prefer? Why?
- +Mohandas Gandhi once said, "An eye for an eye makes the whole world blind." What does this mean to you? How might it apply to some sort of circumstance in your life?
- +Should assault weapons belong in the hands of the individual citizen, or should they belong only in the hands of law enforcement and the military? Why or why not?
- +Do you believe in the afterlife (life after death)? Why? What support/proof do you have?
- +You are walking down a street alone at night, and a person stops and says, "Give me your money, or I shoot" (they actually have a weapon). What do you do during the incident? Why? What about after the incident?
- +A very attractive friend begins hitting on you strongly. He/she takes off his/her clothing and begins to kiss you. What do you do? Why? Would you consider it a mistake if anything happens?
- +You are being considered for a promotion at work. A fellow coworker accuses you of harassing him/her to "get ahead" and dismiss your creditability. What do you do? Why?
- +You are riding on a boat or a bus while traveling. Suddenly, you realize that your pants are ripped, and if you rise you will expose yourself to the other people riding the boat or bus. What do you do? Why?
- +If you found yourself to be poor and no family members were around to help sustain you, what would you do? Why?
- +How does a person become rich? Conversely, how does a person become poor?
- +Plan a business (either a product or service). What would you need to start, and what would you need to keep your business going?
- +If a person does not find you attractive, do you become angry with them? Why or why not?

+Change is inevitable. We change as we age. So, what things do you expect to change about yourself in the next decade?

+If a tornado, fire, or other disaster destroyed your home, what would you do? Explain.

+Accidents involving motor vehicles lead to mortality and morbidity. How could we change this?

+If a friend of yours succumb to a life-threatening disease (and had no money or insurance for treatment), how would you raise money for them?

+If you could walk a mile in another person's shoes, you would understand their plight. Put on the shoes of a terrorist (foreign or domestic). Talk about why you might hate your own country as a terrorist.

Consider that you work for a government agency, and you are trying to "profile" a terrorist.

+As a supervisor/manager, would you hire a person you like (who might do less work) or hire a person you dislike (who might do more work)? Explain your reasoning.

+You are an emergency room doctor. You have to make a choice: Save the life of a pregnant mother (who is unconscious) OR save the life of her unborn baby. Who do you save? And, why?

+Does a breast-feeding mother bother you? Should such things be allowed in public? Why or why not? If not, what should be done to accommodate breast-feeding mothers?

+Would you consider eating a pet if you were starving? Why or why not?

+If a coworker wrongly accuses you of sexual harrassment, what would you do?

+You come into secret knowledge that the world is going to end tomorrow. What do you do with the last day of your life?

+Would you kill an innocent person if it meant that you could live forever? Why or why not? Explain.

+How do you break up with a person that you don't like?

+How do you approach a person you like and ask them on a date?

+How do you deal with a bully?

+How do you deal with a mean supervisor/manager?

+Tomorrow, there is going to be a severe winter storm (i.e., a blizzard) lasting longer than two weeks. How do you prepared for the storm?

+A tornado is going to hit the institution in four minutes. Where do you go? What do you do?

+If a relative of yours is abducted, what would you do to find them (to ensure their safe return)?

+You are lost in the woods (about 20 miles) from civilization. All you have is a container of water and 2 power bars. What do you do?

+Your instructor asks you to teach the class for the remainder of the semester. What would you do? How would you learn the material