



## Write to the Source Prompts

### ARGUMENT WRITING PROMPT #1

## Are You Convinced?

CCSS: W.9-10.1, W.9-10.4, W.9-10.9, W.11-12.1, W.11-12.4, W.11-12.9

\_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT ESSENTIAL QUESTION] \_\_\_\_\_? After reading excerpts from *The New Jim Crow*, write a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT WRITING PRODUCT] \_\_\_\_\_ that discusses how Michelle Alexander addresses the question and evaluates the strength or usefulness of her claims. Defend your position with evidence from the text. Develop your argument by including relevant personal experience, anticipating counterclaims or competing views, and giving examples from history or current events.

#### Writing products

article	position paper
essay	letter to the editor
literary review	expert testimony
report	

### ARGUMENT WRITING PROMPT #2

## Problem Solver

CCSS: W.9-10.1, W.9-10.4, W.9-10.9, W.11-12.1, W.11-12.4, W.11-12.9

\_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT ESSENTIAL QUESTION] \_\_\_\_\_? After reading excerpts from *The New Jim Crow*, write a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT WRITING PRODUCT] \_\_\_\_\_ that responds to the question by identifying the problem raised by Michelle Alexander and proposes a solution. Defend your solution with evidence from the text. Develop your argument by including relevant personal experience, anticipating counterclaims or competing views, and giving examples from history or current events.

#### Writing products

proposal	report
essay	constituent letter
speech	expert testimony

## EXPLANATORY WRITING PROMPT #1

## So What?

CCSS: W.9-10.2, W.9-10.4, W.9-10.9, W.11-12.2, W.11-12.4, W.11-12.9

\_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT ESSENTIAL QUESTION] \_\_\_\_\_? After reading excerpts from *The New Jim Crow*, write a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT WRITING PRODUCT] \_\_\_\_\_ that describes the problem of mass incarceration and explains its significance within the historical context of race in America. Clarify your explanation with evidence from the text and discuss implications for contemporary society.

**Writing products**

essay  
report  
memo  
lecture

## EXPLANATORY WRITING PROMPT #2

## What's the Impact?

CCSS: W.9-10.2, W.9-10.4, W.9-10.9, W.11-12.2, W.11-12.4, W.11-12.9

\_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT ESSENTIAL QUESTION] \_\_\_\_\_? After reading excerpts from *The New Jim Crow*, explore this question in a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT WRITING PRODUCT] \_\_\_\_\_. Look at the causes of mass incarceration and explain its impact on African American communities and other communities of color in the United States. Support your explanation with evidence from the text and discuss any relevant examples from your own personal experience or community.

**Writing products**

article  
report  
essay

## NARRATIVE PROMPT #1

## In Their Shoes

CCSS: W.9-10.3, W.9-10.4, W.11-12.3, W.11-12.4

\_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT ESSENTIAL QUESTION] \_\_\_\_\_? After reading excerpts from *The New Jim Crow*, address the question by writing a \_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT WRITING PRODUCT] \_\_\_\_\_ that tells about a relevant experience from the point of view of \_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT STUDENT CHOICE B] \_\_\_\_\_. Write your narrative in first person, and use appropriate details and literary devices to develop the plot, setting and characters. Experiment with techniques such as dialogue, plot twist, allusion, motif, flashback or foreshadowing.

**Writing products**

short play  
short story  
short memoir  
dramatic monologue

**Student choice B**

- a person who has been convicted of felony possession and is awaiting sentencing
- a person who was released from prison one year ago after serving a 10-year sentence on drug charges
- a 13-year-old whose father is currently incarcerated with 10 more years left in his sentence
- a judge
- an enslaved person who travels from 1814 to 2014
- a sharecropper living in Alabama during Jim Crow who travels from 1914 to 2014
- a prison reform activist in 2014

## NARRATIVE PROMPT #2

## The Pages of My Life

CCSS: W.9-10.3, W.9-10.4, W.11-12.3, W.11-12.4

\_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT ESSENTIAL QUESTION] \_\_\_\_\_? After reading excerpts from *The New Jim Crow*, address the question by writing a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ [INSERT WRITING PRODUCT] \_\_\_\_\_ about an experience or event in your own life or community that relates to themes in the book. Write in first person, using narrative techniques to develop experiences, events or characters and to sequence events and establish a specific tone.

**Writing products**

autobiographical sketch  
one-act play  
short memoir  
dramatic monologue  
diary entry