

## **Praxis I: 30-Minute Essay: Sample Writing Prompts**

- High school students should not be exposed to controversial topics in the classroom. (Agree or disagree)
- Teachers can apply to become nationally board certified, based on a rigorous application and screening process. This program is beneficial to the teaching profession. (agree or disagree)
- Students benefit most from hands on activities. (Agree or disagree)
- The draft should be reinstated to insure that our country can defend itself in these troubling times. (agree or disagree)
- If the draft is reinstated, women should be drafted as well as men. (agree or disagree)
- Teacher education programs should emphasize methods instruction, including classroom management. (Agree or disagree)
- Many states have begun implementing standardized testing programs to document student success. These programs help improve education in the U.S. (Agree or disagree)
- Students should have the chance to go on several field trips each year. (Agree or disagree)
- The drinking age should be lowered to 18. (Agree or disagree)
- Terminally ill patients should have the right to 'die with dignity' through assisted suicide. (Agree or disagree)
- Communities need to become more involved in supporting local schools. (Agree or disagree)
- Teachers should be required to learn a foreign language as a part of their training. (Agree or disagree).
- Sports should be emphasized throughout secondary education (Agree or Disagree).
- There is no excuse not to vote. All U.S. citizens should vote in every election, even when they are not thrilled with their choices of candidates. (Agree or Disagree)
- It is important to read a newspaper daily. (Agree or disagree)
- Money management is important, especially avoiding credit card debt. (Agree or disagree)
- The key to friendship is loyalty. (Agree or disagree)
- The amount of sex and violence on television these days has a negative effect on children and teens. (Agree or disagree)
- Smaller class size leads to more success in elementary and high school classes. (Agree or disagree)
- More vocational training should be available to high school students who may not be interested in getting a college degree. (Agree or disagree)
- Everyone should be encouraged to get a college degree, regardless of what they want to do for a living. (Agree or disagree)

- Children benefit from having choices but also having limits set. Too much freedom can actually lead to negative results for children at home or in the classroom. (Agree or disagree)
- The internet is one of the best sources of information these days. (Agree or disagree)
- We rely too much on computers these days. (Agree or disagree)
- Cell phones have improved the lives of people. (Agree or disagree)
- Students are more likely to succeed if they believe their teachers care about them. (Agree or disagree)

Occasionally, the prompts are quotes that you are asked to agree or disagree with. You may want to find other quotes to write on as well for practice.

- Only the educated are free. Epictetus (Agree or Disagree).
- The foundation of every state is the education of its youth. Diogenes Laertius (Agree or Disagree).
- Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information on it. Samuel Johnson (Agree or Disagree).
- Knowledge is power. Francis Bacon (Agree or Disagree).
- Mistakes are the portals of discovery. James Joyce (Agree or Disagree).
- An educated person is one who has learned that information almost always turns out to be at best incomplete and very often false, misleading, fictitious, mendacious just dead wrong. Russell Baker (Agree or disagree)
- The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives. Robert M. Hutchins (Agree or disagree)
- An unjust peace is better than a just war. Marcus Tullius Cicero (Agree or disagree)
- The release of atomic energy has not created a new problem. It has merely made more urgent the necessity of solving an existing one. Albert Einstein (Agree or disagree)
- Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity. Martin Luther King, Jr. (Agree or disagree)
- Find a job you like and you add five days to every week. H. Jackson Brown, Jr. (Agree or disagree)
- Peace and justice are two sides of the same coin. Dwight D. Eisenhower (Agree or disagree)