

## Opinion Prompt Practice- Teacher Model Lesson

### Third Grade

Essential Learnings of the Unit: Standard:	Objective/Daily Question/Learning Target:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How do I respond clearly to an opinion writing prompt?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can find the key words in a prompt.</li> <li>I can tell what the prompt is asking me to write about.</li> <li>I can respond to a prompt while staying on topic.</li> <li>I can use facts and details from the passage when responding to a prompt.</li> </ul>
<b>Formative Assessment Evidence:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quick Share</li> <li>Thumbs up/down</li> <li>Quick Writes</li> </ul>	
<b>Lesson 1: I Do</b> (Model/All teacher)	
<b><u>Checking for Understanding throughout the “I Do”</u></b>	
<p>How will we explain the strategy/skill?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain to students that sometimes they will be asked to write without much time for research and preparations. Sometimes they will not be able to spend several weeks going through the writing process, but will need to complete the writing process in one sitting.</li> <li>Review the writing process.</li> </ul> <p>How will we provide a model of the strategy or skill for the students?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Using the prompt “City or County, which would you choose?” the teacher will model breaking down the prompt, underlining key words, understanding the task, and responding to the task by writing clearly.</li> </ul> <p>How will I/we show our thinking in action?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teacher will model using think aloud strategy. She will walk the students through each step of unpacking, and responding by modeling exactly what is expected from writing clearly, staying on topic, opening, closing, using transition words, and completing a nonnegotiable check.</li> </ul> <p>What will be the key points of our think aloud?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read aloud prompt</li> <li>Think about key words</li> <li>Think about what the prompt is asking me to do</li> <li>Think about what the prompt is asking me to include</li> <li>Brainstorming a topic</li> <li>Brainstorming facts</li> <li>Brainstorming specific information needed based on prompt</li> <li>Drafting a response</li> <li>Drafting opening</li> <li>Using temporal words</li> <li>Drafting closing</li> <li>Nonnegotiable checklist</li> <li>Prompt Response Assessment (think through self-assessment of meeting the requirements of the prompt)</li> </ul> <p>*Passages used in prompt are from Virginia Department of Education’s economic unit: The Economy at Work.</p>	

## Example Item 2

DOK Level: 4

English Language Arts (ELA) Grade 3 Content Domain: Writing and Language

In this section, you will read a passages comparing and contrasting the views of whether or not families should relocate for economic reasons. Then you will write an opinion essay stating whether or not you think the family should relocate. You will support your statement with details and facts from the passages.

Before you begin planning and writing, read the texts:

1. "The Country mouse and the City Mouse"
2. "The Allman Family's Decision"

As you read the texts, think about what details from each you might use in your opinion essay.

### The Country Mouse and the City Mouse

Once there was a country mouse who lived quietly in an old farmhouse. He was happy until one day when his cousin, the city mouse, came to visit.

The city mouse looked around at the country mouse's little den. He joined his cousin in a meal of bread crusts. Then he told his cousin, "I live in the city where we eat fine food every night and we hardly have to work at all. Come live with me and you will see!"

Now the country mouse was unhappy with his humble home. He packed his little mouse-bag and set off to the city with his cousin the city mouse.

When they got to the city, the city mouse led his cousin into a large dining room where the leftovers of a great feast were still on the table. "Come on up for some cheese and sweets," called out the city mouse as he jumped up on the table. The country mouse jumped up too and began to feast on finer food than he had ever seen in the country.

Just then, there was a noise in the hall and through the door came a pair of snarling, vicious dogs. "Dogs! Run for your life!" called out the city mouse. Both mice jumped down and scampered across the floor, just ahead of the snapping teeth of the dogs.

Finally they reached the safety of a hole in the wall. "I am going back to the country," said the country mouse. "A crust in peace is better than a feast in fear."

### **The Allman Family's Decision**

The year is 1947 and the Allman family has a decision to make.

Richard Allman and his wife Elizabeth are tobacco farmers. They own their small farm in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. They have three children: Richard Jr., Alice and Louise. Richard, Jr. recently returned from serving in World War II and is willing to work on the family farm. During the war, however, Richard, Jr. learned about opportunities off the farm. He has friends in Richmond and he and his father can get jobs working in a factory there.

In a good year, the tobacco farm provides enough money for paying taxes and for buying all the things they need that they do not make on the farm.

They raise crops and animals, and Elizabeth does a lot of canning, preserving and sewing. In a bad year, the tobacco crop does not provide enough money and they have to count on getting loans or using savings to get through to the next year.

The family likes what it has heard of life in Richmond but it also likes the country. In Richmond, they would make more money but would have to spend more, too, because they would no longer grow their own food. In Richmond, they would not have to worry if the weather turned out to be bad for growing crops, but they would face the possibility of losing their jobs.

## TASK

As you have read in the two passages, living in the county has both its advantages and disadvantages. Think about the opportunities characters in both stories face. Then, write an opinion piece about whether you think the Allman family should move to the city, or remain in the county. Be sure to use information from the passages as you write a piece that gives your opinion. Write your answer on the lines provided.

**Now write your opinion essay. Be sure to:**

- Introduce your topic.
- Clearly state your opinion.
- Organize your paper with ideas that relate to your opinion.
- Support your claim with reasons, examples, and details from both passages.
- Recognize and address alternate or opposing claims.
- Link opinions and reasons using words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition).
- Establish and maintain a formal style.
- Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation.
- Check your work for correct usage, grammar, spelling, and capitalization.