## 59 writing prompts for math teachers

## Prompts for math journals (assessing disposition)

- My best experience with math was when $\qquad$ .
- My worst experience with math was when $\qquad$ .
- I love math because...
- I hate math because $\qquad$ .
- I want to become better at math so that I $\qquad$ .
- Is math your favorite subject? Why or why not?
- What did you like most about your math class last year? What did you like the least?
- People who are good at math $\qquad$ .
- One mathematics activity I really enjoy is $\qquad$ because
$\qquad$ -.
- When I study for a test, I $\qquad$ .
- When it comes to math, I find it difficult to $\qquad$ .
- When I hear someone say math is fun, I $\qquad$ .
- When I see a word problem, the first thing I do is $\qquad$ . Then I $\qquad$ .
- Does mathematics or math class scare you in any way?
- Draw a picture of a mathematician and describe what a mathematician does.
- Explain how you feel about mathematics now as compared to before you took this class.


## Prompts for learning logs (assessing learning)

- My three personal goals for this term are $\qquad$ .
- Explain everything you know about $\qquad$ .
- What is a $\qquad$ ? Write all you can about $\qquad$ .
- Find something that you learned today that is similar to something you already knew. Write about these similarities.
- How would you use what you learned today in your life?
- The main idea today's lesson was $\qquad$ .
- Write a definition in your own words of a $\qquad$ .
- What is the most significant thing you learned this week?
- What questions are still unanswered at the end of this week?
- Last week in math I learned $\qquad$ .
- My favorite part of math last week was $\qquad$ .


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- The hardest part of math last week was $\qquad$ .
- This is how I used math this week (outside of school) $\qquad$ .
- Describe any discoveries you made about mathematics today, this week/month/year.
- Give two examples of situations in which you have used, seen or can find the concept of $\qquad$ . OUTSIDE of this classroom.
- I want to learn more about $\qquad$ .
- I wish I knew more about $\qquad$ .
- I need more help understanding $\qquad$ .
- My math grade now is $\qquad$ because $\qquad$ .
- What was your grade on the exam/quiz/project? If you were not satisfied with your score, what can you do to improve? If you were happy with your score, what did you do well?
- Write instructions for a (insert grade level here) grader to follow when (adding fractions, finding percentages, calculating averages, etc.)
- How would you describe a $\qquad$ ?
- The difference between $\qquad$ and $\qquad$ is $\qquad$ .
- Compare and contrast the terms $\qquad$ .
- What patterns do you notice in $\qquad$ .
- You know several ways to $\qquad$ (solve an equation, add fractions, etc.) Which method is your favorite? Why?
- Make a list of objects or figures in the room which have
$\qquad$ . How can you tell?
- Write a letter to your teacher explaining what you understand about , and what is still giving you trouble.
- Write and solve a word problem whose solution involves
- Describe practical uses for $\qquad$ .
- Write $\qquad$ possible test questions for this unit.
- Write a letter to a student who will be taking this class next year, giving some advice about this class.


## Prompts to use for problem-solving (assessing process)

- The most important part of solving a problem is $\qquad$ .
- Describe the process you undertook to solve this problem. (Problem needs to be provided.)


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- I knew I was right when $\qquad$ .
- Tips I would give a friend to solve this problem are $\qquad$ - $\qquad$ . $\qquad$ .
- Could you have found the answer by doing something different? What?
- What strategy did you use to solve this problem and why?
- Was this problem difficult or easy? Why?
- Were you frustrated with this problem? Why or why not?
- Where else could you use this type of problem solving?
- What would happen if you missed a step? Why?
- What other strategies could you use to solve this problem?
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