

181 Writing and Discussion Prompts From the 2018-19 School Year

Questions for Debate and Persuasive Writing



Leo Espinosa

1. [Does Your Generation Experience More Anxiety Than Other Generations?](#)
2. [Are Youth Sports Too Competitive?](#)
3. [What Is Your Reaction to the College Admissions Cheating Scandal?](#)
4. [Do We Need More Female Superheroes?](#)
5. [Are Straight A's Always a Good Thing?](#)
6. [Is Listening to a Book Just as Good as Reading It?](#)
7. [Should Parents Track Their Teenager's Location?](#)
8. [How Important Is Knowing a Foreign Language?](#)
9. [Does Online Public Shaming Prevent Us From Being Able to Grow and Change?](#)
10. [Should Facial Recognition Technology Be Banned?](#)
11. [Should Celebrities Weigh In on Politics?](#)
12. [Should School Murals That Depict an Ugly History Be Removed?](#)
13. [Should We Treat Robots Like People?](#)
14. [Does Grammar Still Matter in the Age of Twitter?](#)
15. [Do We Need a Better Way to Teach Math?](#)
16. [How Important Is Correct Spelling?](#)
17. [Should Schools Be Allowed to Censor Student Newspapers?](#)
18. [Are Digital Memories Ruining Our Real Ones?](#)
19. [Is It Selfish to Pursue Risky Sports Like Extreme Mountain Climbing?](#)
20. [Should Congress Try to Impeach President Trump?](#)
21. [What Do You Think Are the Beliefs and Values That Define American Culture?](#)
22. [How Should Senior Year in High School Be Spent?](#)
23. [Is Horse Racing Ethical?](#)
24. [What Is Hard About Being a Boy?](#)
25. [Should the U.S. Get Rid of the Electoral College?](#)
26. [Should the U.S. Ban Military-Style Semiautomatic Weapons?](#)
27. [Should We Abolish the Death Penalty?](#)
28. [What Are Your Thoughts on 'Snowplow Parents'?](#)
29. [How Should Parents Talk to Their Children About Drugs?](#)
30. [What One Song Best Encapsulates This Era?](#)
31. [Should All Children Be Vaccinated?](#)
32. [Should the United States Abolish Daylight Saving Time?](#)
33. [Should Kids Be Social Media Influencers?](#)
34. [Do Kids Need Recess?](#)
35. [Should College Athletes Be Paid?](#)
36. [What Is Your Reaction to Obama's Speech Giving Advice to Young Men of Color?](#)
37. [What Are the Most Important Things Students Should Learn in School?](#)
38. [Is \\$1 Billion Too Much Money for Any One Person to Have?](#)
39. [Do You Think the American Dream Is Real?](#)
40. [Should Schools Teach Mindfulness?](#)
41. [What Is Your Reaction to the Racist Photo on the Virginia Governor's Yearbook Page?](#)
42. [What Are Your Thoughts on 'Hustle Culture'?](#)
43. [What Is Your Response to the Incident at the Lincoln Memorial on Jan. 18?](#)
44. [What Is Your Take on Gillette's Ad Critiquing Toxic Masculinity?](#)
45. [Should Everyone Go to College?](#)
46. [What Are Your Thoughts on the R. Kelly Documentary and Allegations?](#)
47. [Does the President's Goal to Build a Border Wall Merit a Government Shutdown?](#)
48. [Should Radio Stations Stop Playing 'Baby, It's Cold Outside'?](#)
49. [Would You Rather Live-Stream an Event or Attend in Person?](#)
50. [Is It Ethical to Create Genetically Edited Humans?](#)
51. [Should Reporters Ever Help the People They Are Covering?](#)
52. [Should Art Come With Trigger Warnings?](#)
53. [Have You Noticed a New Attitude About Pimples?](#)
54. [Would You Let a Homeless Person Live in Your Backyard?](#)
55. [What Are Your Reactions to the Results of the 2018 Midterm Elections?](#)
56. [What's the Best Way to Discipline Children?](#)
57. [What Is Your Reaction to These Teachers' Halloween Costumes Depicting Mexican Stereotypes and a Border Wall?](#)
58. [Is Fear of 'The Other' Poisoning Public Life?](#)
59. [Should Tech Giants Like Google Be in the Business of Teaching Children How to Be Good Digital Citizens?](#)
60. [Has Animal Grooming Gone Too Far?](#)
61. [Should Marijuana Be Legal?](#)
62. [Do Parents Ever Cross a Line by Helping Too Much With Schoolwork?](#)
63. [Should Columbus Day Be Replaced With Indigenous Peoples Day?](#)
64. [Should Ex-Felons Have the Right to Vote?](#)
65. [What Are Your Thoughts About the Kavanaugh Senate Hearing?](#)
66. [Is It O.K. to Be a Football Fan in 2018?](#)
67. [What Is Your Reaction to the Sexual Assault Allegations Against Judge Kavanaugh?](#)
68. [Are Awards Shows Worth Watching Anymore?](#)

69. [What Do You Think About Vegetarianism?](#)
70. [Why Is Freedom of Speech an Important Right? When, if Ever, Can It Be Limited?](#)
71. [Are Museums Still Important in the Digital Age?](#)
72. [What Do Older Generations Misunderstand About Teenagers Today?](#)

Questions for Creative, Personal or Reflective Writing



Ping Zhu

73. [Do You Like School?](#)
74. [How Do You Deal With Boredom?](#)
75. [How Do You Define 'Family'?](#)
76. [Would You Want to Learn With a Personalized, Online Learning Program Instead of a Teacher?](#)
77. [How Do You Apologize?](#)
78. [Would You Want to Live a Life Without Ever Feeling Pain?](#)
79. [Could You Go a Year Without a Smartphone?](#)
80. [What Rites of Passage Mark the Transition to Adulthood in Your Community?](#)
81. [Do You Give Yourself Enough Credit for Your Own Successes?](#)
82. [Do You Wear Clothes for the Logo?](#)
83. [Would You Want to Live Forever?](#)
84. [Are You a Patient Person?](#)
85. [How Well Do Rewards and Incentives Work to Motivate You?](#)
86. [What Are Your Passions?](#)
87. [Who Are the 'Characters' That Make Your Town Interesting?](#)
88. [Are There Activities You Used to Love That Are Now So Competitive They're Not Fun Anymore?](#)
89. [How Much Do You Trust Online Reviews?](#)
90. [What Do You Plan to Catch Up On This Summer?](#)
91. [How Do You Feel About Your Body?](#)
92. [How Much Do You Speak Up in School?](#)
93. [Do You Hold Grudges?](#)
94. [What's Your Favorite Word?](#)
95. [Do You Like Your First Name? Would You Change It if You Could?](#)
96. [Which Television Shows Are You Sad to See Come to an End?](#)
97. [What Letter of Inspiration Would You Write to Your Younger Self?](#)
98. [Where Would You Visit To Find Out More About Your Family's Past?](#)
99. [How Do Your Parents Share the Responsibilities of Parenting?](#)
100. [What Legends and Myths Do You Believe In?](#)
101. [Do You Intend to Study Abroad While You Are in College?](#)
102. [What Interests You Most in The Times Right Now? Why?](#)
103. [Would You Change Your Eating Habits to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint?](#)
104. [What Is Your Favorite Musical Instrument?](#)
105. [How Would It Feel if Your Little-Known Pastime or Interest Suddenly Became Popular?](#)
106. [What Role Does Nature Play in Your Life?](#)
107. [What Is Your Most Memorable Family Vacation?](#)
108. [Do You Hate When Adults Ask You What You Want to Be When You Grow Up?](#)
109. [How Good Are You at Judging Your Own Talents?](#)
110. [Do You Push Your Parents' Buttons?](#)
111. [What Has Your Sex Education Been Like?](#)
112. [After Home and School, Where Do You Find the Strongest Feeling of Community?](#)
113. [Would You Want to Be Proposed to on a Jumbotron?](#)
114. [Have You Ever Felt Like an Outsider?](#)
115. [What Show Do You Wish Your School Would Stage?](#)
116. [Are You a Procrastinator?](#)
117. [Are Your Parents Addicted to Their Phones?](#)
118. [Do You Have Satisfying Friendships?](#)
119. [What Legacy Do You Want to Leave Behind?](#)
120. [Do You Participate in March Madness?](#)
121. [Have You Ever Been Left Out?](#)
122. [What Foods Best Represent Your Hometown?](#)
123. [Do You Love to Dance?](#)
124. [Is Your School a Safe Learning Space?](#)
125. [What Is the Most Memorable Thing You Have Ever Lost or Found?](#)
126. [How Do You Like Your Pizza?](#)
127. [Could You Live 'Plastic Free'?](#)
128. [How Much of a Romantic Are You?](#)
129. [If You Get Married Someday, Do You Think You Will Change Your Last Name?](#)
130. [How Would YOU Describe the State of Our Union?](#)
131. [Do You Worry About Your Digital Privacy?](#)
132. [How Much Do You Know About Your Family's History?](#)
133. [Do You Listen to Podcasts?](#)
134. [Will You Be Watching the Super Bowl This Year?](#)
135. [Have You Ever Been Ghosted?](#)
136. [How Resilient Are You?](#)
137. [Do You Look Forward to Old Age?](#)
138. [Do You Find It Hard to Say 'I Love You'?](#)
139. [What Messages About Gender Have You Gotten From Music?](#)
140. [Where Do You Want to Travel?](#)
141. [Would You Pursue a Career If You Knew You Likely Would Not Make Much Money?](#)
142. [How Do You Get What You Want From Your Parents?](#)
143. [What Are Your Predictions for 2019?](#)
144. [Have You Set Any New Year's Resolutions?](#)
145. [What Is Something New You Learned This Year?](#)
146. [What Is Your Choice for Word of the Year?](#)
147. [Who Are the Ordinary Heroes of 2018?](#)

148. [Are You an Ethical Consumer?](#)
149. [What Were the Best and Worst Things About 2018 for You?](#)
150. [Do the Adults in Your Life Follow You on Social Media?](#)
151. [What Are Your Favorite Songs and Albums of 2018?](#)
152. [What Have You Learned About Life From Watching Movies?](#)
153. [Have You Ever Learned Something From a Professional Athlete?](#)
154. [Do You Leave Funny Comments Online?](#)
155. [Did You Take Part in Any Thanksgiving or Post-Holiday Traditions?](#)
156. [What Scientific Mysteries Do You Want Solved?](#)
157. [What Will You Talk About on Thanksgiving?](#)
158. [Do You Wish You Had the Go-to House?](#)
159. [Do You Feel Constricted by Gender Norms?](#)
160. [Who Is Your Favorite Visual Artist? What Is Your Favorite Work of Art?](#)
161. [If You Had an Extra Billion Dollars, What Cause Would You Support With Your Philanthropy?](#)
162. [What Classic Video Games Do You Still Enjoy Playing?](#)
163. [How Do You Feel About the Spiders, Insects and Other Tiny Creatures in Your Home?](#)
164. [Are You Watching the World Series?](#)
165. [Do You Wish You Had a Different Morning Routine?](#)
166. [Are You Worried About the Rising Cost of Attending College?](#)
167. [How Often Do You Start Conversations about Faith or Spirituality?](#)
168. [How Much Scare Can You Handle in Your Halloween Entertainment?](#)
169. [Do You Ever Feel Lonely?](#)
170. [How Concerned Are You About Climate Change?](#)
171. [Has a Novel Ever Helped You Understand Yourself or Your World Better?](#)
172. [Have You Ever Gone to a Place for the Primary Purpose of Taking Selfies?](#)
173. [What Role Does Instagram Play in Your Life?](#)
174. [Do You Want Your Parents to Live Nearby When You Go to College?](#)
175. [Do You Consider Your Siblings Friends?](#)
176. [Where and Why Do People Come Together in Your Community?](#)
177. [Do Your Parents Yell at You?](#)
178. [What Would You Name Your Band?](#)
179. [Does Your Teacher's Identity Affect Your Learning?](#)
180. [What Book Would You Add to the High School Curriculum?](#)
181. [What Advice Do You Have for Younger Students?](#)