DEFINITION OF EXPOSITORY WRITING

EXPOSITORY WRITING is defined as presenting reasons, explanations, or steps in a process. Logical order should be used with appropriate sequencing of ideas or steps in a process. Effective expository writing should contain a main idea, supporting details, and a conclusion.

EXPOSITORY PROMPT

Think about a person who is most important to you. Tell who this person is and explain why this person is so important to you. Be sure to include details and examples that clearly explain your reasons.
EXPOSITORY MODE Level I – Does not meet standard

1. Paper #5904346

In this brief but clear response, the writer provides a list of reasons that dad is important (loves me, gets me what I need, been there with me). Although the response is on topic and expository, there is no evidence of an organizational plan and little attention to topic development. Both are necessary to become eligible for a higher score.

2. Paper #5904208

This Level I response begins with an assertion that grandma and dad are important, describes only grandma minimally, then discusses great grandmother’s last days in ICU. The writer then finishes with a narrative about the death of a relative’s dog. All these people (and dog) may be important to the writer, but in this response they indicate multiple controlling ideas. Such lack of author control shows little evidence of an organizational plan and an inability to make a choice, or focus on relevant information in some logical order. Although there is development, the writer spends over half the response in narrative mode. Overall this response shows little understanding of the expository writing task.

3. Paper 5904349

This long rambling response initially identifies two important people: Mom and the writer’s teacher. The writer switches back and forth between them (at times in midsentence) for the first half of the response. The focus then remains on the teacher but ends with an unclear narrative about a school bus trip. Such rapid shifts are confusing and indicate little understanding of organizational strategy. Although there is evidence of topic development, the information is general and the vocabulary only basic-functional (do stuff, make her happy, nice). Obvious errors in sentence formation and grammar interrupt the flow of communication throughout the response. Overall, the disorganized presentation of information shows little author control of the expository writing task.
Do you have a person that is important to you? I know I have someone important to me. That person is my dad. Because he loves me even when I do something wrong. He gets me whatever I need. Also, he has been there with me through the hard times.

My dad is also important to me because he's been there my whole life. He is really important to me because I don't see my mom as much as I should.
My grandma and my dad is very important to me. Because my dad buy me everything. Because my grandma buys something from her trip and her three child's names are and I something back from her trip. Member my hole family miss my grand grandma and her name was biddy name. Because that was my grandma mother and she was in the hospital sick. First she was in ICU. Next she was in a room on a hospitable bed. Then her sisters came to see her. Finle the next morning my grandma told and I that she diced in the hospitable. Back then had a black and white dog and his name was Poncho. He was so little and tiny and small. He was always feed he was not on a fish. One night he went down the hill out on the street he was just standing ther and and a car drove by and...
The person is important to me is my teacher and my mom to why. I say that because they just about get what I won't that's why I love them so because they is the best in the whole lot whole teacher are nice so time mom are nice to not all mom just so mom I do a lot of thing for my teacher and then I do a lot of stuff for my mom too. Just to make her happy too and when my teacher is not happy I try to make her happy and if she don't get happy and some time I make my mom happy and some time when she come in for work she be so tired and to day I am saying for math plus the most important to me is me trying to get my grade up that is my problem. That's why I make my be a better person. I can but some people make me be mean and I do not want to be mean but I just
1. Paper #5970211

This lower Level II response clearly focuses on the writer’s best friend _____. There is some evidence of an organizational plan in the use of transitional language, primarily the repetition of information from sentence to sentence (we like, she likes, we also wear). This strategy also indicates some attention to the flow of ideas and thus, some author control. Reasons are bare and extended, so development remains minimal. Vocabulary is basic-functional, and there are only minor errors in spelling and usage. Overall the response demonstrates some understanding of the expository writing task. More development is necessary to achieve a higher score.

2. Paper #5973565

This lengthy response about an important Mom contains a lot of information in the form of extended reasons. However, the writer jumps quickly from idea to idea and reaches elaboration only once, discussing Mom’s enthusiasm and happiness. The writer has a clear sense of audience and purpose, but needs to demonstrate an essential ability to organize and control information into a coherent whole for a higher score. There is some variety in sentence structure, and the vocabulary is at times meaningful (enthusiastic, humorous, nectar). Overall the response shows only some understanding of the writing task.

3. Paper #5967526

This Level II response gives three reasons why the writer’s Mom is important (provides for me, there when I’m struggling, always nice). However, the organizational strategy provides only minimal development. The overuse of rhetorical questions (what is the first reason a person is an important person to you?) and the constant repetition of information from reason to reason replace the development necessary for a higher score. These transitional devices indicate strong author control and facilitate a smooth flow of ideas, but more development of those ideas would allow this response to achieve a higher score.

4. Paper #5971496

This higher Level II response has a clear organizational plan which previews the three reasons ____ is an important friend (caring, honest, fun), and gives some additional information in the summary conclusion. Each reason adds a little more specific information, but the unevenness in elaboration and the mostly basic-functional vocabulary result in only minimal development. The writer shows a sense of audience and purpose, with evident author control in the clear flow of ideas. More development and specificity would help this response reach a higher score.
The most important person to me is my best friend. She's just like my sister even though she's not. You know what makes us so alike is that we both like the same things. She likes the Jonas Brothers and so do I. We like the same kind of clothes, makeup, music, TV shows and we also where the same size shoes. She is always there for me when I need someone to talk to or be around. If you ever need a friend she's the one. The main reason is important to me is that when I'm with her she doesn't care what other people think about her and neither do I. We always have fun together. What can I say, she's my best friend and we love one another for who we are. That's why she is the most important person to me.
My favorite person is my mom. I like her because she is nice, loving and caring. My mom is like Wonder Woman because she is strong and fast. She is a wonderful person and she loves people and flowers. My mom is very happy and sweet. I love her in different ways and different ways. She is a very athletic person and she loves football and soap opera. My mom is one of a kind because she is funny and loves everyone that she knows. She is awesome and humorous and she loves to make us laugh and have fun. I love my mom because she cooks me food and never gives up on me. She is a type of person you would like because she's kind and cares about the people around her. My mom is enthusiastic about everything. She is like a bowl of happiness and joy. I think there is nothing you can do to upset her. My mom is as jolly as Santa and as happy as a lark. My mom is very nice and she will do everything she can to make people love her. Everyone likes my mom because she has helped a lot of people when she is...
at work. My mom is a very generous person and loves to spend time with people of all sorts. She loves everyone and she has no enemies what so ever. My mom is someone you could really get used to. I love her so much and I love the way she sings like a humming bird. Getting regular. My mom's voice is as soft as a pillow. I like her because she lets me play base ball and play when ever I want. She is a very ordinary person. I just love the way she helps me when I need help the most. My mom is gentle and cautious to almost every thing that has a sector alarming to it. I love her a lot and I always will. She is a very in tending person to know because she does things you would never think a mom would do. My mom is my favorite person in the whole world and is as nice and kind as a little baby. My mom is a fantastic person and she is a very cool person.
The Person That Is Most Important To Me.

I will tell you three reasons why my mom is most important to me. Are either your mom, dad, stepmom or stepmom important to you? Why or why not?

The first reason is because she provides me, food, shelter, clothes, and she brought me into this world. What is the first reason one person is important to you?

The second reason is she is most of the time there for me when I am struggling with homework, my grades, or just struggling with everything. What is the second reason one person is important to you? Do they help you when you are struggling?

The last reason my mom is the most important person to me is because she is always nice and when I forget to do something, she reminds me to do it, or does it herself. What is the last reason that person is most important to you? Is it because they remind you to do something, or do they do it themselves?

I told you three reasons why my mom is the most important person to me. Who is the most important person to you? What are some of the reasons that person is the most important person to you?
Hi, my name is. Today I am going
to talk about a very important person.
And her name is. The reason
why she is important to me is because she
is caring, honest, and fun.

She is very caring. She will
always call when I don't come to school
to see what's wrong. She always cares for
my sister too. So that's why I think
she is caring.

She is very honest too. When
something goes wrong, she will tell me.
And when people talk about me, she
will come and tell me. So that is why
I think she is honest.

She is very fun to
be around. Only when she is in a
good mood, so you have to go easy
on her. Otherwise she will drive you
crazy.

Now you see who is
important to me. And three reasons
why I mean it is not like my family
isn't but they are very important
to me. But she is my important
best friend. Well, gotta go bye.
1. Paper #5968778

In this Level III response about an important Mom, the writer uses a traditional five-paragraph organizational plan with an introductory preview of reasons and a brief summary conclusion. Ideas flow smoothly with a nice use of transitional language within and between the three reasons (cooks, works, drives me places), which indicates good author control. The first reason (cooks) just reaches elaboration, but each following explanation contains both more, and more specific, information. Word choice is meaningful at times (siblings, annoyed, groceries), and there is some variety in sentence structure. Errors in sentence formation do not interrupt the flow of communication. This engaging and personable response needs more development overall for a higher score.

2. Paper #5922591

This response shows a good understanding of the expository task. The writer identifies Grandpa as the most important person and develops three reasons (funny, smart, caring) and an additional anecdote about his nickname (Crampa). The organizational plan includes an introductory preview of reasons and a summary conclusion. The response shows a variety of developmental strategies. The first reason (funny) uses cluster elaboration, and the second reason (smart) provides specific examples of math skill. The anecdotal reason (caring) demonstrates good flow within ideas and provides the best development. There is some meaningful language (multiplication, peroxide, Einstein), along with variety in sentence structure.

3. Paper #5957369

This adequately developed Level III response shows a good understanding of the expository writing task. The writer identifies Dad as the most important person and launches into three reasons. The first reason is a nicely developed cluster elaboration of hunting experiences, based in part on the sounds of this activity (Boom! Bam! Pop!). The second and third reasons also use cluster elaboration (support for the writer’s football and baseball training, working with Dad), but provide less information. There is not much flow within and between reasons, although the organizational plan is clear.
This higher Level III response is thematic in both development and organization. The writer begins with a short introduction (which is not a preview), listing extended reasons why Grandma is important. The writer launches into a discussion about Grandma’s helpfulness (babysitting, holiday money, homework help) and then describes her unique physical characteristics. Finally, the writer explains all the fun things she does with the family. The writer concludes with an endearing tribute to the mutual affection they share with each other. Development is sufficient, and at times thorough, with a good sense of audience and purpose. Each discussion holds together thematically, but the response does not show the clarity and coherence of a Level IV response. A clearer organizational strategy would show the author control necessary to achieve a higher score.
My mom is the person who is most important to me. She cooks, works, and drives me places. If she wasn't here I don't know what I would do.

My mom cooks for me. Every night she goes into the kitchen and cooks everyone food. We all need my siblings and not even my dad can cook so the way we get food is through her. My mom is great at it too.

Other than my dad, my mom is the only one that works. She earns the money to pay the bills that keep our lives great. Any time I need some money I go to her because I know she has lots.
(But most of the time she won't give it to me)

Does anyone drive you anywhere? Well I have my mom to drive me where I need to go. I can't drive yet so if I'm going to a friend's house I'll go let her drive me. Sometimes I get annoyed because she makes me do other stuff like get groceries when she drives me around. But that's o.k. because she's my mom, and I know that if I do want to get anywhere I have to do what she says.
The person who is most important to me is my mom. She cooks for me, works so I can have a good life, and she drives me places where I need to go. That is why I think my mom is the most important person to me.
I am writing about my grandpa because he is loving, smart, and funny. If you get hurt he always helps you. He can be funny sometimes. He is always smart about things. He always tell him crampa.

He is very funny because he can make weird sounds. Sometimes he says funny things or even does funny things. Once he even fell off his bike and still won when playing for the Iron Bowl. He never misses a football game.

He is very smart too. He knows pretty much every multiplication problem by heart. He knows 1 x 1-13. He can tell you that 7 x 18 is really quick. You would almost think he was Einstein without the hat.

My grandpa is very caring. If you fall or get hurt he always helps you and take care of you. Once I fell off my bike and my knees both got cut up really bad. He took me inside of his house and padded person side on my knees and wrapped it up.

He also has a funny name. We call him crampa. Because one day we were walking around and he got a cramp.
I know we call him googoo, it's all because of that one day.

My googoo is funny, smart, and easy-going, and that's why we all love him so!
Do you have someone important to you in your life? Well, I do, and he is very important to me. He is my Dad. I'm going to explain why this person is so important to me.

Boom! Bang! Pop! That is the sound of the gun when my Dad was teaching me how to hunt. My Dad and I go hunting a lot. For practice, we would put up old cans on a tree and shoot them like a target. My Dad and I love to hear the dogs barking up the tree. It gives our liver shivers down your spines.

My dad is awesome when I have a football or baseball game. He is always there for me. When I get hurt playing football or baseball, he always helps me to heal. He always encourages me to do better. He helps me get better by practicing with me.

My dad makes me work all the time. But I know he is not trying to hurt me. I knew when my dad makes me work, it's just going to help me when I'm older. I love putting fences up to help my Dad. I

Now you can see why my Dad is important to me because he showed me how to hunt, he is always there for me, and he makes me work.
My Grandma

My grandma is very important to me. She loves me and cares for me. She is very old, but she can do everything a regular grandma does. I go to the park with her and stay at her house a lot. She keeps me company.

She is very important to me because sometimes on the weekend my mom and dad want to go somewhere and she is the best babysitter! She is also important to me because everyone needs a grandma and I would be lost without her. When it gets close to the holidays and I do not have any money to buy people gifts, she helps me buy them. She also helps me with my homework. When she was in school she was an honor student.

She looks pretty for an old lady. She wears stylish clothes. She is sixty-two years old but she does not look like she would be that old. She has short brown hair that has lots of hairspray. She does not wear much makeup unless she is going somewhere fancy, and she even looks sweet.
I go to the mall with her sometimes. In the summer time she takes me and my sisters to Martin Lake. When I get my allowance every two weeks, sometimes she will take me to spend it. When my family and I go on vacations we take her with us and when she is there it seems like we have more fun! Every Sunday we have lunch with her after church. A lot of people come.

I love my grandma. I do not know what I would do without her. She worries when I am sick, and cares for me every minute of the day. When we go somewhere, she holds my hand across the street. How can you not love someone so sweet like she is? I can not wait until I see her again this week!
This creative and humorous Level IV response explains three reasons why Caleb the dog loves his owner. The writer thoroughly develops how Caleb’s owner feeds, plays, and cuddles with him. Strong author control is evident in the consistently maintained viewpoint (from Caleb’s perspective). The first discussion is a careful explanation of both dog and owner eating habits, and how Caleb earns treats. The second discussion is an exhaustive description of games they play, and the third is a shorter discussion of the times they cuddle together. Precise vocabulary and sentence structure variety enhance the specific and imaginative development. The strong organizational strategy is seamless, with good flow from start to finish. This engaging response shows a thorough understanding of the expository writing task.

This lively response demonstrates both a strong organizational plan and the effective use of varied personal anecdotes to illustrate the importance of the writer’s best friend Kathleen. The introduction provides a preview of three reasons (cheers me up, makes me laugh, gets me through hard times), and there is a smooth flow of ideas within each reason, which results in an overall sense of coherence and completeness. The writer vividly portrays this relationship with anecdotal explanations and a mastery of dialogue, which is a hallmark of the thorough development in this response. Good author control is additionally evident in the strong sense of audience and purpose.

This more thematic lower Level IV reaches thorough development overall, and demonstrates a clear organizational strategy in the explanations of the support and love an important aunt provides to the writer. The development is specific though uneven, and presents a mix of abstract appreciation for her qualities (unbelievable kind, hopeful mood, positive advice) and concrete examples of her help (from homework to stress management). The flow of ideas is not entirely smooth, but there is a clear sense of completeness at the end. Minor errors in spelling and sentence formation do not interrupt the flow of communication.
This Level IV response demonstrates a strong organizational plan with just enough thorough development. The writer uses a traditional five-paragraph structure, with a long preview and concluding summary of three reasons why the writer’s Dad is important. The writer carefully explains how Dad provides encouragement for good grades, helps the writer get better in sports, and provides resources for school and sports. Each reason has specific examples and meaningful, at times precise, vocabulary (infield to hitting to pitching). The smooth flow within ideas is evident in the logical order of the first two reasons, and the careful cluster elaboration is evident in the final reason. This flow also demonstrates good author control throughout the response. Because of the repetitive nature of the information in the long introduction and conclusion, there is just enough thorough development for this response to reach Level IV.
It's A Dog's Life - The most important Person ever!

The most important person in my life is by far my caring owner. She is always nice to me, but she calls me "..." whatever that is supposed to mean. I love her for many reasons and I'm going to tell you all about those reasons in my story.

One of the reasons she is so important to me is because she always feeds me. She gives me this crunchy and meaty meal which are really good. I usually rush through to finish eating all of it. Something I don't understand though is that she doesn't eat with me. She eats all of her meals inside at this high platform without me (except sometimes she throws me a bit of "bone" too). Every once in a while I get a special treat as my owner calls it. The treat is so good except I just get when I "sit" or when she says to "it isn't to often I do that though it's stupid!

Another reason I love my owner so much is because she always is playing with me. She will throw a green ball and I'll go chase it. The one thing I don't like about it is when she tries to take it away even though I was the one who actually went to go get it. She also does this thing where she pulls on one side of the rope and I put my mouth on the other side and pull. I usually win though because I have this really cool strategy where I bite.
the middle and swing everywhere and right when it hits her hand her hand magically lets go. Another game that she plays is when she puts this stupid rope around my neck and I go one way and she tries going the other but falls so I get to pull her around the neighborhood.

My last reason why she is so important to me is because she always cuddles with me. When we go to sleep I jump on her big bed and she will get me until I fall asleep. She also lays down right in front of a fire inside and cuddles with me and we fall asleep together. She even kisses me and wraps her arms around me before we go to sleep. I really love my owner.

These were just a few of the reasons why my owner is so important to me. She is always there for me, loves me, and I could go on and on but then it would take me days. I hope you understand why I love her so much. I'm really "woof" living a dog's life and boy it is nice!!!
Have you ever thought about who the most important person is to you? The most important person to me is my BFF. She is my best friend. She is the most important person to me because she cheers me up, makes me laugh, and gets me through hard times.

The first reason is the most important person to me because she cheers me up. She is always there when I need her most. For example, one day when I was at my house, my day wasn't going so well. The next thing I knew she was in my room. We spent about an hour in my bedroom making jokes and laughing.

The second reason is the most important person to me because she makes me laugh. She says the craziest stuff. For example, I was spending the night with her and her dad and we were watching "Twilight" on her dad's laptop. After it was over, she looked at me and said, "Is that what started laughing and I managed to choke out, "I know know." The third reason she is the most important person to me is because she gets me through hard times. She is the best at getting people through hard times. For example, my dad has just died.
The night before and I was really, really sad. I went straight to her and told her and she asked, "The real little one! Who tried to eat me every time I came to your house?" I giggled and nodded. Then she said, "Oh, I'm so sorry." and gave me a hug.

So, in conclusion, the most important person to me. She is the most important person to me because she is always there when I need her. Most, she makes me up and she makes everyone happy.
The most important person to me is my aunt. My aunt is caring, nice, supportive. You could look in the thesaurus to find how many words describe my aunt. My aunt's name is Mary.

She is so important to me because she is supportive. When I am hopeless, heartbroken, upset, furious, or even in trouble, my aunt takes time out of her busy, and restless day to help me with homework, projects, and even helps try to get me out of trouble. My aunt also isn't going to let me be upset for one second without helping me be hopeful again.

My aunt has done unbelievably kind and noble requests for me and my little brother. I feel that all the money in the world couldn't slightly re-pay my aunt. My Aunt has chaired my little brother up and won't let him be sad again.

When you see my aunt she is always in a wonderful, hopeful mood that morning that you would feel good for that day. When you are in this mood everything feels right with the world. It is a blessing for me to be my aunt.

My aunt is kind even to people like me who aren't very kind. My aunt also is communicative, friendly. My aunt goes around and does kind deeds. My aunt is always helping and keeping spirits bright. I, one of many unhappy people in the mornings,

I have to go up at 5:00 A.M., take a shower, get dressed, make my bed. After that successful 5:00 A.M. awakening, I feel better about the positive advice my aunt gives me on the way to school. My aunt is one in a million. She is one of the most important people I've ever met. In the family. My aunt also makes me feel better when I'm younger.
about myself, or when I'm stressed.

I think Aunt... deserves respect, honor, and in my
thoughts one of the most kind people I've ever known.
Aunt... can cheer up anyone, even someone mad as a guy off
a hot sauce bottle left in Texas in a hot as fire wasteland
eating peppers.

I can be one of those hot sauce bottle guys
mad as fires. Sometimes I get too frustrated. But if there's
one person I know, it is Aunt..., who can cool me
down.

Aunt... will be remembered to me as one
kind and caring aunt. I'm thinking others would
remember Aunt... being kind and loving. I think my
whole family will remember Aunt... as a
blessing in our family.

Aunt... one time told me that I will always have
someone looking after me. It would be her. She told me this when
someone else in my family loved and respected died.
It was someone also important to me who died.
I think Aunt... is a blessing.
For this expository writing prompt, I am going to do my dad. I am writing on him because he is the most important person to me. My three reasons he is the most important person to me are he gives me encouragement to get good grades in school, he gives me tips and helps me get better in sports. Another reason is he gets me most of the things I need to get better and do good in sports and school.

My first reason that my dad is the most important person to me is that he gives me encouragement to get good grades in school. My explanation for this is he disciplines me to get good grades in school. I say this because if I get a bad grade on something (A, C, D, or F) then I get grounded from television, video games, and friends.

My second reason that my dad is the most important person to me is that he gives me tips and helps me get better in sports. For example, baseball is my favorite sport and without my dad, I wouldn't even know how to throw a baseball. He taught me about everything I need to know from infield to hitting to pitching to outfield to throwing.

My third reason that my dad is the most important person to me is because he gets me most of the things I need to do good in sports and school. For example, this year I got asked to be on a travel baseball team and I said yes. He got me a bucket of baseballs and a net to hit into to get better. He also got my friend and I into a program with a
hitting coach so that I could get better at hitting. For school he always gets me all of the things I need such as pencils, scissors, etc. He also pays for things I need in enrichment such as a board for light bulb, paper, etc.

Well, that's why my dad is the most important person to me. If your dad is as nice as my dad then you have a nice dad. I just told you in my paragraphs that my dad is the most important person to me because he gives me encouragement to get good grades in school. Also because he gives me tips and helps me get better in sports and he gets me most of the things I need to get better at both school and sports. My dad is the best dad ever!