
GED READING / CONSTRUCTED RESPONSE / EVIDENCE-BASED WRITING

www.procon.org

ProCon.org provides resources for critical thinking to help educate without bias. The company researches issues that are controversial and important, and presents them in a balanced, comprehensive, straightforward, transparent, and primarily pro-con format at no charge. Categories include:

<i>Education</i>	<i>Elections</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Media</i>
<i>Money</i>	<i>Politics</i>	<i>Religion</i>	<i>Science & Technology</i>
<i>Sex & Gender</i>	<i>Sports</i>	<i>World / International</i>	

Each topic includes a wide variety of position papers from various points of view, easily adaptable to evidence-based and constructed-response writing prompts that ask students to choose positions that are best supported.

<http://www.readworks.org/>

Designed to help teachers find reading literary and informational reading passages for levels K-8 which correspond to common core standards, teach evidence-based writing, vocabulary development. Ready-made and printable, adult content especially in social studies and science especially adult content.

www.newsela.com

Newsela has a wide variety of articles on many topics of current interest. Each one includes word count (six-eight paragraphs as a rule) and a short 4-question quiz. Many are easily adaptable to pro/con discussions, debate and evidence-based and constructed-response writing prompts. Articles are in order by date. Categories include:

<i>War & Peace</i>	<i>Law</i>	<i>Arts</i>	<i>Science</i>
<i>Health</i>	<i>Sports</i>	<i>Kids</i>	<i>Money</i>

Articles relevant to corrections:

<https://newsela.com/articles/prison-design/id/5006/>

<https://newsela.com/articles/juvenilehall-writers/id/5430/>

<http://sheg.stanford.edu/rlh> / *Reading like a Historian*

*The **Reading like a Historian** curriculum engages students in historical inquiry. Each lesson revolves around a central historical question and features sets of primary documents designed for groups of students with diverse reading skills and abilities.*

This curriculum teaches students how to investigate historical questions by employing reading strategies such as sourcing, contextualizing, corroborating, and close reading. Students evaluate the trustworthiness of multiple perspectives on historical issues. They learn to make historical claims backed by documentary evidence.

The 73 lessons in the U.S. curriculum, initial 31 lessons of the world curriculum, and 5 lessons in the introduction to historical unit can be taught in succession. The lessons generally establish relevant background knowledge and pose the central historical question. Students read documents, answer guiding questions or complete a graphic organizer. Includes documents that address the central historical question.

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www.palmbeachschools.org/ace/acelessonplans.asp

This website has a very large number of ready-to-use lessons in math, language arts and science. It includes power points, games, worksheets, detailed lesson plans and links to on-line lessons for reinforcement. Many of the topics included are directed related to skills needed for GED 2014 (determining author's purpose, developing an argument, citing evidence, etc.) It takes time to open and sort through the lessons to determine what to use to supplement lessons, but it is well worth the time.

www.cnn.com/studentnews

Daily newscast from CNN and archives of previous shows. Transcripts can be adapted for classroom reading activities, before or after viewing the show. PDFs of weekly news quizzes can also be printed and used to review current events / social studies content.

<http://betterlesson.com>

Thousands of teacher-made language arts and math lessons aligned with common core standards. Lessons for levels K-12 include downloadable resources, questions, follow-up activities. Informational PowerPoints. Can be adapted for use in the classroom to teach reading comprehension for literature and informational texts, evidence-based writing, most math skills.

<http://upfront.scholastic.com>

Upfront Magazine is a print magazine with an on-line resource component published by the New York Times. It provides current events stories dealing with national and international news, debate questions, questions about ethical dilemmas. Easily adaptable to development of evidence-based writing and constructed-response questions.

www.cpalms.org

CPALMS is an online toolbox of information, vetted resources, and interactive tools that helps educators effectively implement teaching standards. It is the State of Florida's official source for standards information and course descriptions. Hundreds of teacher created lesson plans for grade levels I – 12, many of which could easily be used to create evidence-based and constructed-response writing activities.

www.khanacademy.org

<https://www.khanacademy.org/youcanlearnanything> **“You Can Learn Anything” short video**

Khan Academy offers a wide variety of short video lectures for teachers to use in the classroom to help explain a complex topic in simplified, clear language. Students can also use on their own at home to review specific concepts in the areas of math, science, economics, arts and computing.

www.nwabr.org/sites/default/files/SocSem.pdf

www.scholastic.com/teachers/top-teaching/2010/11/higher-order-comprehension-power-socratic-seminar

Socratic Seminars is a methodology for teaching reading comprehension, textual analysis and evidence based argument through discussion. These websites offer tips on how to lead discussions that deepen students' understanding of texts and help them practice critical thinking skills, through guided discussion. Skills developed through Socratic Seminars are transferable to answering evidence-based and constructed-response writing prompts.

<https://pod51043.outlook.com/owa/#path=/mail>

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) English / Language Arts writing assessments for grades 3–8. Some of these are elementary in content; grade level 4 and 7 are especially adaptable to adults. Good writers’ checklists at the end.

<http://gradnation.org/report/dont-call-them-dropouts>

Don’t Call Them Dropouts

Excellent report on the state of teenagers who leave school, statistics, video, reasons and quotes by teens. Might make an interesting discussion and writing assignment.

SKILLS PRACTICE WEBSITES for Students

www.learningexpresshub.com / [Learning Express Library](#)

Excellent, accessible website offers simulated quizzes in Adult Literacy and High School Equivalency. Students must create an account. If they do not have a library card or do not have their number, continue as Westchester Library System (don't click Switch Library System.)

*Quizzes on various levels in five subjects: Reading, Writing, Math, Grammar, Vocabulary
Allows you to choose your test mode in each subject area:*

- *Simulation (timed)*
- *Practice (view answer explanations after you have finished)*
- *Learner (view the answers to each question as you go along to help you study)*

www.readtheory.org

Over 1,000 free interactive reading comprehension exercises. Read Theory teaches students to think critically, draw inferences, understand scope and global concepts, find or recall details, and infer the meanings of useful vocabulary words.

Reading activities for all ages and ability levels. As students continue to use the site and see their scores gradually improve, the system adapts to match their progress, and the materials presented get incrementally more advanced. Quizzes span the full range, beginning with elementary school reading and ending with the most demanding SAT, ACT, and GRE level reading comprehension and verbal reasoning questions.

www.varsitytutors.com/ged_language_arts_rla-flashcards

(www.varsitytutors.com/ged_language_arts_rla-flashcards)

This site offers ready-made quizzes in the form of virtual flashcards. Choose from a variety of subjects relevant to the GED and get immediate feedback on whether answers are correct and why. Allows teachers to tailor site and create flashcards for students to practice information taught in class.

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www.freerice.com

Free Rice is an interactive game that helps you practice vocabulary, grammar and math skills while helping others.

How to play:

- *Click on the right answer in the middle of this page.*
- *If you get it right, you get a harder question. If you get it wrong, you get an easier question.*
- *For each answer you get right, Free Rice donates 10 grains of rice to the [United Nations World Food Program](#).*

www.brainpop.com

username: leoncounty

password: brainpop

Brainpop uses movies, quizzes, games, mobile apps, experiments, activity pages, and much more. Brainpop covers hundreds of topics within Math, Science, Social Studies, English, Technology, Arts & Music, and Health. All content is aligned to and searchable by state standards including Common Core.

www.ple.platoweb.com

PLATO

account login: lcsd13

username: _____ (teacher assigns)

password: _____ (teacher assigns)

www.typingweb.com

Online free typing program for practicing keyboarding skills.
