

## Assignment I: Narrative/Essay Writing

(suggested time—70 minutes)

### Assignment

Write either a narrative or an essay about **the importance of being kind to others**. You may write about yourself or other people, real or fictional. You may set your writing in the past, present, or future.

### Ideas

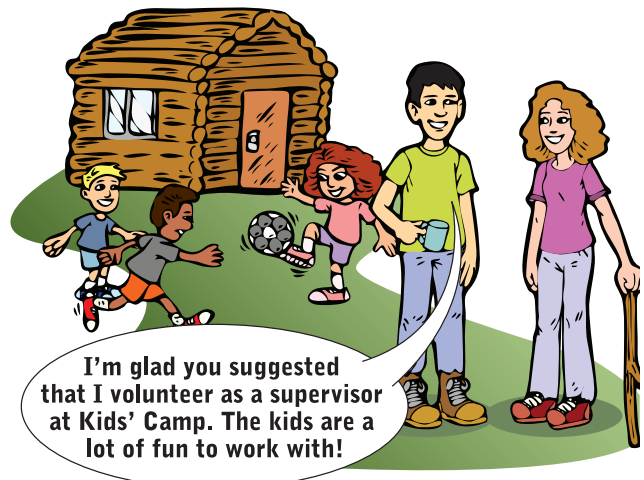
The following material may give you ideas for your writing. **You do not have to refer directly to any of it.** Consider the knowledge and experience you have gained from reading, listening, viewing, discussing, thinking, or imagining.



If I can stop one Heart from breaking  
I shall not live in vain  
If I can ease one Life the Aching  
Or cool one Pain

Or help one fainting Robin  
Unto his Nest again  
I shall not live in Vain.  
—from *The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson*

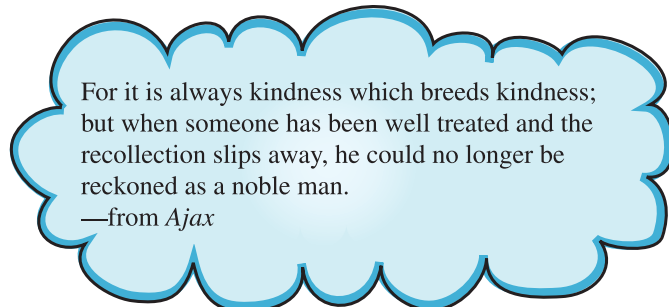
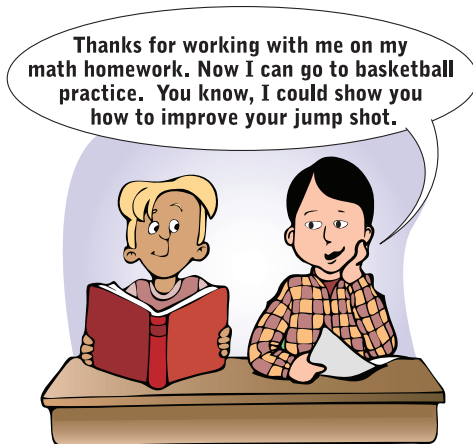
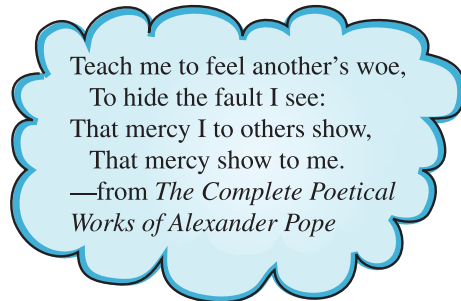
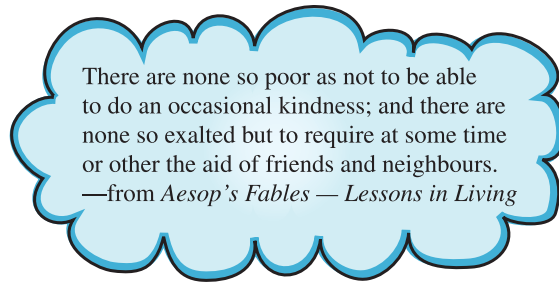
I would live this life so well  
Strangers of me praise might tell.  
Somehow I would like to be  
Cherished here in memory,  
Not as one whose skill was great;  
Not as one who conquered fate;  
Not as one who rose to fame,  
Leaving a remembered name,  
But as one who served some need  
With a timely, kindly deed.  
—from *Collected Verse of Edgar A. Guest*



Dickinson, Emily. *The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson*. Edited by Thomas H. Johnson. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1960.

Guest, Edgar A. "Creed." In *Collected Verse of Edgar A. Guest*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Chicago: The Reilly & Lee Co., 1943.

## Assignment I: Narrative/Essay Writing



When writing, be sure to

- **consider your audience**
- **focus** on your **purpose** and **point of view**
- **organize** your **thoughts** appropriately in sentences and paragraphs
- **use vocabulary** that is interesting and effective
- **edit** your **work** directly on your writing
- **budget** your **time**

Aesop. "The Lion and the Mouse." *Aesop's Fables – Lessons in Living*. Translated by Samuel Croxall and Sir Roger L'Estrange. With applications and morals by G. F. Townsend and L. Valentine. Fort Worth: Brownlow Publishing Company, Inc., 1969.

Pope, Alexander. "Universal Prayer." In *The Complete Poetical Works of Alexander Pope*. Cambridge Edition. Edited by Henry W. Boynton. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1903.

Sophocles. *Ajax*. Edited and translated by A. F. Garvie. Warminster: Aris & Phillips, 1998.