

The Sea Life

Persuasive Writing

- **Persuade** = to convince others.
- Use examples why your opinion is best.
- Explain why your examples prove your point.
- Tell why other ideas are not as good.

Essay #1: Using a strong opening sentence, convince the reader your answer is correct.

(8-12 sentences)

Every year the good ship *Lollipop* needs repairs: a new sail, new boards, or new parts. If every piece on the ship is replaced, is it still the same ship, or does it deserve a new name?



Essay #2: Write a persuasive response to the following historical event.

In 1789 a mutiny occurred on a British ship, *HMS Bounty*, under the command of Captain Bligh. Mutiny is a serious crime on a ship. It's when the crew disobeys orders or even takes over the vessel. The ship was on a long voyage to Pacific islands, looking for breadfruit plants that could be transported to colonies back in the West Indies. Thirty miles from the nearest island, near Tahiti, an officer named Fletcher Christian convinced other crew members it was time to mutiny because the captain had treated them harshly, and they would be better living on a beautiful Pacific island. Around 5 a.m. the captain and some of the loyal crew were captured. They were loaded into a small boat and set adrift. (The small boat made a dangerous 4,000 mile open-sea journey to the nearest Dutch settlement. Later, Captain Bligh and his loyal crew found transport on a larger ship and successfully return to England.)

How do you think the captain would have tried to persuade the mutineers to surrender and let him back aboard his ship? You may write the response in either first or third person.

(10-14 sentences)

Essay #3: Would you rather live alone on a small deserted island or alone in a forest wilderness for a year? You have no outside contact, no personal supplies, but have good survival skills.

(16-20 sentences)