

Expository Writing
Prewrite

Title

- I. Name of the planet _____
 - A. What does the name mean? _____

 - B. Why was it given? _____

 - C. Other information about the name _____

- II. Position of the planet
 - A. Ordinal number from the sun _____
 - B. Distance from the sun in miles, astronomical units _____

- III. Special characteristics of the planet
 - A. Satellites (moons)
 - 1. Number of satellites _____
 - 2. Information about any of the satellites _____

 - B. Composition (What is it made of?) _____

 - C. Atmosphere (What is it made of?) _____

 - D. Diameter _____
 - E. Gravitational pull _____
 - F. Other _____

- IV. Movement of the planet
 - A. Rotation (planet moves on its axis – days) _____
 - B. Revolution (planet moves in orbit – years) _____
 - C. Information about the orbit _____

Using this prewrite, the report will have four paragraphs plus a conclusion. Remember that each detail MUST be supported by facts and information.

Expository Writing Prewrite Example

This is an example of how to use the information from the chart to complete the prewrite. Only the first two sections of the prewrite are used for this example.

Earth

- I. Name of the planet **Earth**
 - A. What does the name mean? **Earth is an Old English and Germanic word that means soil.**
 - B. Why was it given? **It was named for the soil.**
 - C. Other information about the name **Earth is the only planet not named for a Greek or Roman god.**

- II. Position of the planet
 - A. Ordinal number from the sun **3**
 - B. Distance from the sun in miles, astronomical units **92.9 miles, one AU**

Expository Writing Draft Example

This is an example of how to use the information from the prewrite to write paragraphs for the report. Only the first two sections of the prewrite are used for the draft in this example. Be sure to note focus, support, and sentence structure.

Earth

Which planet have the most people visited? All humans have visited Earth, our home and the planet we are most familiar with. The name Earth is Old English and Germanic for our soil. Earth is the only planet that was not named after a Greek or Roman god. Since scientists from Earth created the measures used to measure space, Earth is usually used to measure the other planets by. Scientists call the distance from the sun an astronomical unit (AU). Earth is 92.9 miles from the sun, so 92.9 miles is one astronomical unit. That means that Earth is one astronomical unit from the sun.