ISEE Practice Essays

Test Innovators LLC

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Thank you for purchasing our 2015 ISEE Practice Essays from Test Innovators at www.ISEEpracticetest.com.

These 9 essays are intended to help prepare your child or student for their once-a-year opportunity to take the official ISEE.

This document includes three Lower Level (#1, #2, #3), three Middle Level (#4, #5, #6) and three Upper Level (#7, #8, #9) essay prompts. However, students of every age benefit from practicing the essay prompts of every level included here.

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ISEE Essay Advice

Essay Strategy (to Practice, Practice, Practice!):

First, decide on your main response to the given ISEE question (pick whatever response is *easiest* to write on!). (This answer is your *thesis* – the main point you will make and support in your essay.) Next, OUTLINE YOUR ESSAY (You must practice doing this!!!), noting supporting evidence for your thesis. Next, decide in what order you will talk about the ideas you brainstormed.

Ideally, your essay will have an introduction with your main point (and mention of the 2-3 main supporting ideas), 2-3 body paragraphs of evidence supporting your main point, and a summarizing conclusion. Aim for a 5 paragraph essay.

For example, pretend my topic is: "Where in the world would you want to live for a year and why?" My outline could include the words: "Brazil – because of the weather / I want to learn Portuguese/ I'm interested in studying Capoeira." I could then start my essay: "If I could live anywhere in the world for a year, I would choose Brazil." I would then continue by listing (in the order I planned to talk about them) the reasons I had outlined. "I'm attracted to Brazil for its tropical weather and rainforest and because I want to become fluent in Portuguese and intensively study the Brazilian martial art, Capoeira." I would then make sure the body paragraphs of my essay first mention weather, then Portuguese, then Capoeira. I would end with a brief conclusion.

Writing Mechanics:

Remember to make sure your handwriting can be read. Stay within the margins of the answer sheets. If you wish to change something you have written you may neatly strike through the words you want to "delete." You are given 2 lined pages; however, you do not need to entirely fill both pages.

If you have time, we recommend that you read over what you have written. Often when we write quickly, we make careless mistakes. Check to make sure you haven't left out any words. Look over your spelling. See if you have capitalized words in odd places. Does your comma use look okay? Make sure your sentences are complete and remember you cannot connect two full sentences with a comma! If you mention people speaking, have you used quotes properly? Did you use the correct spelling of there/their/they're and two/to/too?

Be your own editor and good luck!

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Essay #1 Topic Sheet

You will have 30 minutes to plan and write an essay on the topic given on the opposite side of this page. You may NOT write on another topic.

The essay is made to give you the chance to show how well you write. Express your thoughts as clearly as you can. The quality of your writing is more important than the amount. However, it is important to write enough for a reader to be able to understand what you mean. It is better to write more than a short paragraph.

Write only in the indicated section of the answer sheet. You may write in cursive or print. Please use handwriting that can be read by someone unfamiliar with your writing.

You may plan your essay on the opposite side of the page. You must copy the essay topic into the box provided on your essay answer sheet.

Write only the final draft of your essay on the two lined pages of your answer sheet; write in blue or black pen. Only the two lined pages (not the following page including your notes) will be sent to each school that receives your ISEE results.

Essay Topic: #1

What is the thing you own that is most important to you? Please explain your answer.

- Write only on this essay question
- Write only in black or blue pen
- This page will not be sent to schools

Notes

STUDENT NAME:	GRADE APPLYING FOR:
Use black or blue ink to write the final draft of your essay on this	page.
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Use specific details and examples in your essay response.	
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Essay #2 Topic Sheet

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Essay Topic: #2

A package arrives at your door addressed to you. What would you want to be in the package? Please explain your choice.

- Write only on this essay question
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Essay #3 Topic Sheet

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Essay Topic: #3

If you could take one of your closest friends on a surprise trip, where would you choose to go and why?

- Write only on this essay question
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Essay #4 Topic Sheet

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Essay Topic: #4

You decide to study in another country for a year of high school. Where would you choose to go and why?

- Write only on this essay question
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Essay #5 Topic Sheet

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Essay Topic: #5

If you were going to be famous, for what would you want to be well-known and why?

- Write only on this essay question
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Essay #6 Topic Sheet

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Essay Topic: #6

Your friend calls to share great news with you. What news would you want to hear and why?

- Write only on this essay question
- Write only in black or blue pen
- This page will not be sent to schools

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Essay #7 Topic Sheet

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Essay Topic: #7

You are going to be on national television. What would you say to encourage young people to watch local and world news?

- Write only on this essay question
- Write only in black or blue pen
- This page will not be sent to schools

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Essay #8 Topic Sheet

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Essay Topic: #8

You are a skilled architect with limited funds. What would you choose to build and why?

- Write only on this essay question
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Essay #9 Topic Sheet

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Essay Topic: #9

A professional photographer asks to take an action shot of you. What shot would you choose and why?

- Write only on this essay question
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