

Conversations with Crescent

Episode Title: Conversations on Hair, History, and Popular Culture

8th Grade ELA Essay Prompts

Standards Alignment¹

Standard 1: Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

Standard 2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Standard 3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

Standard 4: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

Standard 5: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Writing Prompts

1. After her encounter with Mr. Price, Crescent asks viewers, “have you ever experienced anything like this before?” In a complete and well-written narrative essay, describe your experience as it relates to the episode.
2. Identify one historical fact or issue discussed in the episode. In a complete and well-written essay extend the conversation. A well-written essay will further explain the issue, state your position on the issue, and present compelling evidence to support your position.
3. What is an Act? How does an Act become enacted legislation? This episode discusses the Crown Act. If you could propose an Act for the state of South Carolina, what would it be and why?
4. In the episode, Crescent, Maisha, and Kayla discuss the various messages hair can communicate. In your opinion, what do hairstyles and trends communicate? What do you intend to communicate with your hairstyle?



¹ South Carolina College and Career -Ready Standards and Indicators for Grade 8 (2015)