

Writing Effective Expository and Expressive Essays for CSET or CBEST

Introduction

Writing effective expository and expressive essays for CSET or CBEST is best accomplished with a clear plan of attack firmly in mind and practiced prior to taking the exam. Clearly, the night before the test or during the test time itself are not the appropriate times to being planning for how to manage your time and the essay responses. To assist you in this endeavor (writing successfully for CSET/CBEST), I have created a series of videos for you to watch and replay as you prepare for these essays. Please note that you must use your own best judgment and that all I am offering you are suggestions. However qualified and correct these suggestions may be, I will accept no credit for your ultimate success or failure. On a more positive note, everything that you will read and review is based on information that successful candidates report that they knew prior to taking the exam; therefore, this work rests on the experiences of many other people.

There will be five parts to the presentation. The first part provides an overview of how we will proceed through the document, along with other important information we will apply to the essays. The second part will cover scoring scale and typical expository and expressive essay questions. The third part will review the expository essay responses for their merits (if present) and detriments (when present). The fourth part will present the expressive essays (I call them persuasive) and follow the same analysis we will undertake in part three. Finally, I will end with some recommendations and reminders in part five.

Let's begin with an introduction to writing for CSET and CBEST.

Part One: Introduction to CSET / CBEST Writing

Overview

To begin, there are five areas we will explore together.

1. Knowing how to brainstorm quickly based on questions and their types
2. Understanding how to organize your writing into a logical scheme
3. Using a formulaic writing style that is tailored to the audience given in the question
4. Avoiding common errors in usage
5. Reviewing common essays and analyze answers that receive various scores against the scoring criteria

The criteria used to score your essay will be reviewed when we discuss item five on the list. You should be able to recognize that most of these items are part of the writing process, where you *brainstorm, draft, revise ideas, edit grammar*, and then *write up* your response. I will note now, and reiterate later, that I would use the writing process faithfully and in this order prior to writing the actual response (as always, the choice will be yours).

Let's look at each point of the writing process in detail.

Brainstorming

First, knowing how to brainstorm quickly is extremely helpful. When you are given a question, really the last thing that you want to do is write the answer. There are some other things you

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, CBEST Mary Frances Andis, Research and Education Association, 2001-10 Written by California professors familiar with this regional exam REA's CBEST test preparation guide includes comprehensive reviews in reading mathematics and essay writing Three full length tests modeled after the actual CBEST exam are provided Detailed explanations are provided for the answers to each question For prospective educators who wish to obtain certification within California and or Oregon

CliffsNotes CBEST, 7th Edition Jerry Bobrow, 2011-07-20 Your guide to a higher score on CBEST California Basic Education Skills Test Why CliffsNotes Go with the name you know and trust Get the information you need fast About the Contents Introduction Description and format of the exam CBEST California Basic Education Skills Test scoring Commonly asked questions Part I Analysis of Exam Areas Reading Graphs and Charts Mathematics Writing Part II Mathematics Review Symbols Terminology Formulas and General Mathematical Information Arithmetic Algebra Measurement Part III Four Full Length Practice Exams Each practice exam includes the same number of questions as the actual exam The practice exams come complete with answers and explanations for all questions Model essay responses include grader comments **Verbal Builder for Admission and Standardized Tests**, 1998 The Skill Builders help students prepare for the specific skills and subjects tested on an exam They are designed to tutor students on every skill level from high school to graduate or professional school Keys are included to show students which chapters to study for specific tests REA's Verbal Builder reviews all verbal questions covered on standardized tests such as the ACT CBEST CLEP GMAT GRE LSAT PSAT SAT and other state teacher exams The book is comprised of chapter reviews in grammar and usage reading comprehension vocabulary and essay writing Each chapter includes practice tests drills and helpful strategies CliffsNotes CBEST Btps BTPS Testing, 2021-06-15 A teacher certification study guide for California's CBEST including subject reviews and 4 model practice tests CBEST (California Basic Educational Skills Test) Shannon Grey, Kathryn Porter, 2010-10-06 Nationwide more than 5 million teachers will be needed over the next decade and all must take appropriate tests to be licensed REA gets you ready for your teaching career with our outstanding library of Teacher Certification test preps Written by professional educators REA's updated CBEST California Basic Educational Skills Test test prep helps prospective teachers in California and Oregon prepare for this important exam and get licensed Publisher Cracking the CBEST, 2nd Edition Rick Sliter, 2002 The CBEST is required for teacher certification in California and Oregon Each new teacher must receive certification which means that they must pass the CBEST This book shows them how Princeton Review CBEST Prep, 4th Edition The Princeton Review, Frederick Sliter III, 2019-12-10 THE PRINCETON REVIEW GETS RESULTS Get all the prep you need to ace the California Basic Educational Skills Test CBEST with 4 full length practice tests thorough topic reviews and proven techniques to help you score higher Techniques That Actually Work Essential strategies to help you work smarter not harder Tips for pacing yourself and guessing logically Tried and true tactics to help you avoid traps and beat the test

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CBEST Jerry Bobrow,2000 The most authoritative guide to the California Basic Educational Skills Test gets better with updated material and the most current test requirements This test is for teachers potential teachers and credential candidates for California and Oregon **Handbook of Research on Foreign Language Education in the Digital Age**

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California Basic Educational Skills Test Fred Obrecht,1997 Improved with expanded new subject reviews in reading mathematics and writing skills this book includes a special ESL chapter that is focused to help test takers who speak English as their second language Three full length model CBEST exams reflect the actual CBEST in length question types and degree of difficulty All model tests have answers and explanations *Cracking the CBEST.* ,1999

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