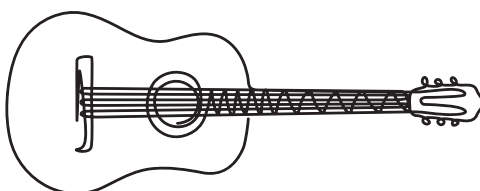


Pre-writing Prompt Guide

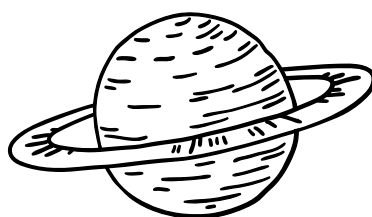
Select an object that is special to you. For example: a family heirloom, a photograph of Mars, a leaf from your favorite tree, or a travel souvenir.

Set a timer for three minutes and respond to each of these guided questions:

- Explain why your object is special or interesting to you. Is it handmade? Is it from a faraway place?
- Imagine you can see the invisible inner world of your object. Describe it in as much detail as you can.
- What is the secret of your special object? What memories does it carry?
- Imagine the flavor of your object. Describe what it would taste like. Would different flavors burst from it, depending on where you sink your teeth into?



- Explore the object using all of your senses. Use **similes** to describe your object (A simile is a comparison between two things using "like", "as" or "than").
Example: *sputtering like an old engine*.
- Use a **metaphor** to describe your object or theme (A metaphor is a direct comparison where one thing is said to be another).
Example: *the camera lens is a time machine*.
- Has your object changed in appearance since you first owned it? Write about the transformation.



- Imagine you had to give this object away. Who would you give it to? Why?
- Script a conversation between you and your object. Your object may speak another language or make sounds only you can decipher. This is a chance to give your object a voice and sound effects through **onomatopoeia**. The conversation can be as serious or as ridiculous as you like.
- Explain how you would feel if you lost the object or it was destroyed. Why do you think you would feel this way?

