

4th Grade Expository Essay Examples

Example 1: The Different Types of Teachers

When we say the word “teacher,” it can mean many different positions depending on the level and institution this professional works at. In terms of certification, and not philosophy or any abstract thinking, there are preschool, elementary, middle school, high school, private school, continuing education, special education, and college teachers. All of these different types infer varying responsibilities and requirements to be employed.

As most know, preschool teachers focus on teaching very young children. This level of instruction is the first formal classrooms children visit. According to the website Teacher Certification, “Preschool teachers can work for school districts, but they can also run private organizations. As a preschool teacher, you’ll have a basic lesson plan that covers early learning. To be a preschool teacher, you should have a focus on early childhood education” (Types of Teachers). As you can see, being a preschool teacher is a flexible profession.

The next type of teacher in terms of grade level is an elementary school teacher. Elementary schools feature a wide range of grades, which is usually first to fifth grade. This means teachers in these institutions need to be comfortable instructing at many levels. According to Teach.com, “Elementary school teachers usually have one class and they teach their students several different subjects. The curriculum is usually structured around the fundamental subjects of mathematics, science, social studies, language arts, music, art and reading. The exact structure and pedagogy can vary from school to school, but for the most part, elementary school focuses on building the foundation for a well-rounded education overseen by teachers who follow students closely through their development” (“Elementary School Teacher”). So, in this sense, elementary school teachers aim at giving students a comprehensive education and vie for their academic development at each stage.

Naturally, the next grade level after elementary school is middle school. Teachers who teach at this standard focus on subjects and courses designed for the sixth through the eighth grade. According to Teacher.org, “Middle school teachers are often required to teach 4 to 7 classes daily with students at different levels of learning abilities. Some classes may contain special needs students, but all classes are typically at the same grade level. Though most middle school teachers teach only one subject area, some may choose to teach an extra elective class, monitor a club, or coach a sports team” (“Middle School Teacher”). Middle school students are notoriously difficult to deal with, but that is why these teachers are especially needed.

High school teachers are certified to work in high schools, where they develop students’ studies in middle school and gear them towards entering a college or university. As Teacher.org states, “Usually, high school teachers are responsible for teaching a single subject, like English or Math. Lessons are typically taught through classroom discussions, lectures, and other methods. Teachers tend to evaluate student progress through coursework, projects, and examinations”

("High School Teacher"). In addition, high school teachers are able to instruct in a way that is memorable and creative.

Private school teachers, on the other hand, do not need certification in order to teach in an educational institution. Most schools require background checks, an advanced degree in an appropriate field, and teaching experience. However, these teachers are rather flexible in terms of curriculum, teaching style, and certification.

Also more flexible are continuing education teachers. According to TeacherCertificationDegrees.com, "Teachers in adult and continuing education work in a variety of educational settings instructing adult students in a diverse assortment of courses such as art, music, math, language, technology, cooking, and health. These educators work with students seeking self-enrichment and recreation or those seeking academic or vocational instruction for career advancement" ("How to Become an Adult and Continuing Education Teacher: Career and Salary"). So, continuing education does not strive to achieve degrees, but rather a sharpening of one's vocational skills.

Special education teachers focus on those who are disabled or impaired in some way educationally. Special education requires a specific certification, and focuses on improving upon a wide range of educational disabilities. These teachers can teach at any grade level, but commonly these instructors are needed the most in elementary schools and high schools.

Lastly, college teachers require a variety of certifications. If you want to teach in a community college, you may need only a master's degree and ample experience in your chosen field. However, if you want to teach in a four-year college or university, you commonly need a PhD in your specialization. As we know, these teachers instruct in the largest variety of subjects of all the types of teachers.

This was a breakdown of the different types of official teachers. Each one requires its own certification and requirements. However, the common bond between all of them is that they strive to achieve excellence in students' studies.

Works Cited

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Example 2: Why Do Dogs Eat Grass?

Surprisingly, this is one of the most searched-for questions on the internet: “why do dogs eat grass?” Another surprise is that the answer is not all that one-dimensional. There are several reasons why dogs consume grass: improving digestion, treating intestinal worms, fulfilling an unmet nutritional need, the taste of grass is good to them, and dogs get bored.

Poor digestion is a common issue with dogs. According to WebMD, dogs sometimes consume grass to settle their indigestion. However, “Evidence suggests that most dogs that eat grass aren’t unwell beforehand, or at least they don’t seem so. In fact, fewer than 10% of dogs seem to be sick before eating grass, according to their owners. And grass-eating doesn’t usually lead to throwing up — less than 25% of dogs that eat grass vomit regularly after grazing” (“Why Dogs Eat Grass: Causes and Prevention”). So, the theory of dogs eating grass because of indigestion is not so relevant. It may happen only in rare cases.

Another reason dogs like to chew on grass is that they may have an intestinal worm. Consuming grass can be a natural cure for these worms. According to Psychology Today, “The plant material passes through the intestinal tract and the fibrous matter increases the intestinal contractions and wraps around the worms or nematodes which may be infecting the animal. In this way the grass helps to purge the system of these potentially harmful parasites. Although most pet dogs are free of such worms they nonetheless may still have that predisposition to eat grass which was helpful to their ancestors living in the wild” (“Why Dogs Eat Grass—a Myth Debunked”). So, dogs might not have these worms, but they are chewing on grass out of an evolutionary instinct. It is like a natural barrier against worms, regardless if the dogs have them or not.

Also, dogs can eat grass because they are missing a nutritional element in their diet. Dog food is often not enough for them to feel nutritionally satisfied. As stated by Cesar’s Way, “As natural scavengers, canines are programmed to search for nutrition anywhere they can find it. It could be fulfilling a nutritional need that his normal food isn’t, especially fiber” (“Why Dogs Eat Grass – and How to Prevent It”). Besides being instinctual to search for food and to grab what a dog can get, canines might be seeking out fiber. Sometimes dog food does not have enough fiber in it to satisfy dogs’ needs.

Dogs might also be like us humans: they simply might enjoy the taste of grass. To them, it might be an indulgence. The Spruce Pets says, “It’s safe to assume that some dogs simply enjoy the flavor and texture of grass. The modern domestic dog has a limited diet in general, but its wild relatives continue to enjoy a diverse bounty of food. Coyotes, for example, typically eat vegetable matter found in the stomachs and intestines of prey animals” (“Is It Safe for Your Dog to Eat Grass?”). Your dog might just be a foodie, so to speak, and trying to enjoy the riches of the earth. Who knows—maybe your dog has a taste for grass.

Lastly, your dog might be bored when it eats grass. When dogs are bored, they often exhibit interesting behaviors. According to WebMD, “Pica is the technical term for the disorder characterized by eating things that aren’t food. Sometimes pica indicates that your dog has some type of nutritional deficiency, though it is often simply a sign of boredom, especially when practiced by puppies and younger dogs. Dogs eating grass is actually quite common (it has been observed in wild dogs, too, and may be completely natural) and this form of pica does not usually cause too many problems” (“Why Dogs Eat Grass: Causes and Prevention”). Thus, when your dog is chewing on grass, it might be a sign of a pica.

Overall, the answer to the popular question, “why do dogs eat grass?” is founded on several factors: indigestion, intestinal worms, nutritional needs, enjoying the taste of grass, and boredom. It is difficult to determine which of these factors is involved in each dog, but understanding these reasons can bring comfort to a pet owner and treatment for the dog, if needed.

Works Cited

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