

# 2025 Earth Day Writing Contest

## Grade 6 Functional Writing Prompt

### Section II: Functional Writing (Suggested time - 40 min)

Read the situation below and complete the assignment that follows.

#### The Situation:

Canada's energy story began with using the land's natural resources for heat and light, such as wood and coal. Over time, the country's rich natural resources became the foundation for modern energy production. Canada has made great progress in energy production, focusing on clean, balanced, and sustainable solutions. Canada is a world leader in renewable energy, with over 60% of its electricity coming from hydropower. Wind, solar, geothermal, nuclear and biomass are other sources of energy production that also continue to grow. The oil and gas industry is important to Canada for energy and our economy, and we are using advanced methods like carbon capture to lessen environmental impacts. These efforts show Canada's commitment to a future with diverse, cleaner energy sources that support both people and the planet.

#### Assignment:

Your task is to write an article for your school newspaper, talking about how our sources of energy have changed from the first uses of wood and coal to the energy sources of today. Choose and explain at least one source of renewable energy that will power our world into the future.

#### When writing your article be sure to include information on:

- The types of energy that Warren and his family would use to power their town
- The type of energy your family uses to power their homes
- One type of energy that could help power our world into the future (Wind, Solar, Geothermal, Hydropower, Nuclear, or Biomass)

#### Notes

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- The first coal mine in Alberta opened in Lethbridge, in 1882.
- Oil replaced coal as Canada's largest source of energy in 1950.
- Canada is the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the world.
- 9.5% of Canada's electricity currently comes from coal.
- Natural Gas pipelines first delivered gas to Albertans in 1908.
- The first plastic made from petroleum, Nylon, was invented in 1936.
- The first commercial wind farm in Canada was Cowley Ridge, built in 1993, near Pincher Creek, Alberta.

#### Resources:

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[Earth Day.org](https://bit.ly/3VzaXeD): <https://bit.ly/3VzaXeD>

[Inside Education Electricity Poster](https://bit.ly/3VCbk8a): <https://bit.ly/3VCbk8a>

[Ingenium Canada Energy Education](https://bit.ly/3OUcuso): <https://bit.ly/3OUcuso>

[The Early History of Energy in Alberta](https://bit.ly/4isVBCh): <https://bit.ly/4isVBCh>

[Alliant Energy for Kids](https://bit.ly/41zCZKK): <https://bit.ly/41zCZKK>

[Energy in Alberta Timeline](https://bit.ly/4fiUfHe): <https://bit.ly/4fiUfHe>

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