**7th Grade Language Arts/ Triplett**

**Autobiographical Narrative**

Writing Prompt: Write about a specific event or several events in which you learned a virtue. Include anecdotes (brief, personal experiences) and details that clearly illustrate *how* you learned the virtue. Consider using chronological order or logical order to organize your essay. The reader should have a lucid understanding of the learned virtue and how the virtue was obtained.

**The Purpose:** To learn how to write a well-developed 5 paragraph essay using literary elements such as plot, cause and effect, point of view, and dialogue.

**Final Project:** You must have a visual representation of your virtue, why it is important, and a summary of how you achieved the virtue.

**Follow this outline:**

I. Introduction-

a. Hook (an engaging line that captures the reader’s attention. For example, *For twelve years of my life I believed everything and anything I did was ridiculously awkward compared to everyone else.*)

b. Background information (identify the subject and some additional information that would make the narrative more interesting. For example, *The summer of seventh grade was one of the most challenging years of my life…)*

c. Thesis statement (State the importance of the virtue in your life and a hint as to how you achieved the virtue. For example, *I became more self-confident and comfortable with myself when I changed schools in seventh grade.)*

II. Body (you will have 3 body paragraphs and *repeat this following process twice*)-

a. Topic Sentence/ Transition (this will introduce the event and transition from the introduction paragraph)

b. Anecdote/Sensory Details (anecdotes are personal experiences that occurred in your life. Be sure to use sensory details that appeal to all 5 senses. For example, *In sixth grade I thought I would be forever alienated when unknowingly an astronomical, brow-curling, atomic bomb reverberated on my chair and permeated my classmates’ noses faster than the bomb on Hiroshima.)*

c. Tarzan transition (connect your paragraphs by swinging to the next idea)

III. Conclusion-

a. Wrap up your event (do not provide any new information)

b. Restate thesis and why the virtue is important

c. Hook (End with a comment for the reader to think about. This should be a sentence that is creatively written.)

**A checklist for your writing:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Clear sequence of events-chronological order/ logical order/ Tarzan transitions used |  | All parts of plot (Basic Situation, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, and Resolution) |
|  | Sensory Details |  | Foreshadow or flashback |
|  | Dialogue that progresses the plot |  | A clear point of view |
|  | Well developed, detailed characters |  | Check for spelling, grammar, and correct header |

**The Writing Process:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Due Date** |
| Brainstorm Graphic Organizers |  |
| Rough Draft |  |
| Peer Edits |  |
| Final Draft |  |

# Final Project: You may choose to do one of the following final projects:

* Video
* Powerpoint
* Comic Book/ Flip Book

Despite the final project you choose, you must use creativity, time management, planning, and effort to produce a good project. You will need to follow the guidelines below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Due Date** |
| Brainstorm Fact Sheet |  |
| Storyboard Template |  |
| Final Project Presentation |  |

Follow the attached grading rubric to see grading criteria. Be sure to include the following:

* **Central theme**- Virtue is clearly identified in the beginning and throughout the presentation
* **Graphics**- Graphics are used to enhance meaning and interest in presentation; graphics do not distract the viewer or are not superfluous; time and effort have been given to creating and using graphics
* **Organization structure**-the presentation is organized so that the viewer can follow with ease (headings and subheadings may be used, arrows, etc.)
* **Length**- Not too short, not too long

Your presentation is a formal assignment. Be sure to act professionally.

**Standard 2.1 Write a narrative with plot, major and minor characters, and appropriate literary strategies (Ex. Dialogue, foreshadow, etc.)**

**Written Oral Language 1.3 Use appropriate parts of speech; 1.4 Demonstrate the mechanics of writing; 1.6 Use correct capitalization**

**Listening and Speaking 1.6 Use appropriate speaking techniques; 2.1 Deliver narrative presentations**

**Assignment:** Write about an event or a person that has significantly impacted you, like Russell Baker in his autobiography “Gumption”. Using sensory details create a detailed setting and a conflict in which your major character(s)-this will be you- must resolve. *Ex. Russell Baker finding his gumption for writing.* **Be sure to follow the plot diagram and use transitions** appropriately**.** In addition, be sure to include **dialogue** (with correct quotation punctuation), **point of view** that adds to the delivery of the story, **maxims**, **hyperboles, similes, or metaphors,** and of course lots of **sensory details.**

Your essay should be at least **2 pages (4 pages double spaced**). Once the rough draft is collected, you will submit a final copy of the essay along with a **mobile** that we will create in class. A mobile is a visual representation of the event or person that you will use while presenting your narrative to the class. More details will be discussed later in class.

**The Purpose:** To learn how to write a well-developed 5 paragraph essay using literary elements such as plot, cause and effect, point of view, and dialogue.

**Follow this outline:**

I. Introduction-

a. Hook (an engaging line that captures the reader’s attention. For example, *For twelve years of my life I believed everything and anything I did was ridiculously awkward compared to everyone else.*)

b. Background information (identify the subject and some additional information that would make the narrative more interesting. For example, *The summer of seventh grade was one of the most challenging years of my life…)*

c. Thesis statement (State the importance of the event to your life. For example, *I became more self-confident and comfortable with myself when I changed schools in seventh grade.)*

II. Body (you will have 3 body paragraphs and *repeat this following process twice*)-

a. Topic Sentence/ Transition (this will introduce the event and transition from the introduction paragraph)

b. Anecdote/Sensory Details (anecdotes are personal experiences that occurred in your life. Be sure to use sensory details that appeal to all 5 senses. For example, *In sixth grade I thought I would be forever alienated when unknowingly an astronomical, brow-curling, atomic bomb reverberated on my chair and permeated my classmates’ noses faster than the bomb on Hiroshima.)*

c. Tarzan transition (connect your paragraphs by swinging to the next idea)

III. Conclusion-

a. Wrap up your event (do not provide any new information)

b. Restate thesis and why the event is important

c. Hook (End with a comment for the reader to think about. This should be a sentence that is creatively written.)

**A checklist for your writing:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Clear sequence of events-chronological order |  | All parts of plot (Basic Situation, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, and Resolution) |
|  | Sensory Details |  | Foreshadow or flashback |
|  | Characters and quotations that help the reader vividly imagine movement, gesture, facial expressions, tone |  | A clear point of view |
|  | Well developed, detailed characters |  | Check for spelling, grammar, and correct header |