

Creative Nonfiction Piece

“Don’t mistake writing memoir for writing in your diary. You still have to write scenes and be engaging. You have to edit mercilessly, get rid of the extra stuff to move the narrative along.” Edwidge Danticat

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You all have that bit of brilliance in you, and I look forward to finding it in your writing. And remember, these are true stories told well. Keep the following in mind:

A Strong Beginning – character, setting, conflict, curiosity and wonder are introduced

A Balance of Scene and Summary – scene is the best way of SHOWING a situation

Tension (often found in scene)

Situation (the events) **and Story** (the deeper emotional experience of the piece / the insight / the lesson learned)

Sensory Detail/Vigorous Verbs – your job is to show the reader, not tell the reader

Point of View – keep it consistent

Keep the writers / storytellers before you at the forefront of your mind. The best way to learn is to imitate those you admire.

Nuts and Bolts:

- 1) This piece should be between 2.5 to 5 pages in length.
- 2) Title! Let the title reflect the heart of the piece.
- 3) I prefer that you keep it single-spaced and print front to back in order to save on paper.
- 4) The font should be Times New Roman
- 5) The font should be size 12. Nothing smaller. Nothing bigger.

Rough Draft/Edit Sheet = 35 points

Final Draft = 50 points

Computer schedule for Creative Nonfiction piece – Period 1/A Day:

Tuesday, October 16 th -	Chromebooks
Thursday, October 18 th -	Chromebooks
Monday, October 22 nd -	Chromebooks
Wednesday, October 24th -	ROUGH DRAFT DUE!
Friday, October 26th -	FINAL DRAFT DUE! (Lab SS 220)
Monday, October 22nd -	Independent Reading Project Due!