

Remembered Person Essay Instructions

Writing Process Assignments and Deadlines

❑ Due Monday October 20: Invention activities

You will begin this on your own before class on Friday 10/17. We will continue with an in-class discussion of our topics. You will complete the remaining invention activities on your own. I recommend that you complete ALL of the invention activities on pages 105-110, but you must complete and turn in with your draft the following: 1) finding a person to write about (105-106); 2) describing the person (106-107); 3) testing your choice (107); and 4) reflecting on the person's significance (108-109). Please put each activity on a separate piece of paper and keep these invention activities in the manila folder to which you will later add your draft. For examples of what these invention activities should look like, please see *SMG* pages 66-69. You will want to spend 90-120 minutes on these invention activities. Try to spread that time out over a day in 30-45 minute chunks.

❑ Due Monday October 20: Full length draft (1200 words)

Before writing your draft, spend at least one hour on invention activities and another few minutes reading over the suggestions and ideas in the "Planning and Drafting" section (110-112). The "Setting Goals" section in particular provides you with an excellent sense of exactly what your audience will look for in an effective remembered person essay. You must complete a "scratch outline" (see page 32 for an example) but you can do this either before or after you draft your essay. Remember, your draft is not graded and does not have to be perfect. So when you draft you should try to relax and just write. You will be revising this anyway, so do not agonize too much over your prose, focusing more on getting your ideas onto paper in an organized flow. I recommend you spend 60-120 minutes drafting. Try to do this in one sitting (this will help you go with whatever flow you establish). In general, your drafting stage will go more smoothly if you have invested a significant amount of time in the invention activities. After you have drafted your essay, complete the cover sheet and assemble your essay folder according to these instructions. When you come to class on Monday you should have the following in your manila folder (if you have not received your folder back yet, I will return it to you in class on Monday):

1. 4 invention activities (finding a person, describing a person, testing your choice, reflecting on the person's significance)
2. a scratch outline (you can write it before you draft to help you get organized or after you draft to help you evaluate how well organized your story is)
3. a FULL-LENGTH draft (1200 words minimum)
4. 2 copies of your completed cover sheet for your draft

Email a backup copy of your first draft to me before class.

❑ Due Wednesday October 22: Peer critique

For this paper, we will complete the peer critiques outside of class. See the course website for instructions. You will bring two copies of your peer critique to class on Wednesday, October 22.

❑ Due Friday October 24: Revised Draft

Working with your peer critique, begin thoroughly revising and improving your paper. Carefully follow the process outlined on pages 114-115. Give yourself plenty of time to revise: 2-3 hours. And plan another hour to proofread and edit (guidance on pages 117-118). You should not be working on this paper up until the last minute before class. If you cram, you will make many small errors. On Friday, bring the manila folder with all of your paper goodies in it, adding the peer critique and your final draft (make sure you put your final draft on top of the pile). *Email a Word file copy of your essay.*

Format: MLA (If you still have questions about his format, meet with me ASAP! I will not accept improperly formatted essays.)

Essay Evaluation: I will apply the general grading rubric presented on the home page of the course web site. You should read this carefully before you draft and revise your essay. Where the rubric refers to the "demands of the assignment," you should remember the criteria established in the chapter: a vivid portrait, revealing anecdotes and recurring events, an indication of the person's significance, and an effective organization. *SMG* summarizes these criteria on pages 102-103 and again on pages 113 and 115-116. Each of the essays in the chapter and *Always Running* provide examples of the various techniques you should employ in your essay. As the rubric makes clear, I will also evaluate essays for sentence structure and variety, word choice, and correct mechanics (usage, grammar, punctuation, spelling, etc.).

Draft Cover Sheet

Writer's Name:

Date:

of Words (counted by word processor)

Purpose: What do you hope to achieve in writing this Remembered Person essay? What features of the story do you hope will most interest readers? What do you want to expose about yourself?

Paste or write in your favorite sentence here:

Problem: Ask your reader to help you solve the single most important problem with your draft. Discuss this problem briefly.

Draft File Folder checklist (moving from top to bottom)

- _____ Two copies of this cover sheet
- _____ A typed copy of your full-length draft
- _____ A scratch outline
- _____ 4 required invention activities
 - finding an event
 - describing the place
 - recalling the people
 - reflecting on the event's significance

