Creating Writing 1

Day 26
November 5th

• Daily Description: Describe how an experience can change your view of the world.

• Agenda:
  – Daily Description
  – Intro to the Personal Essay
  – Organizing a Literary Journalism Article or a Personal Essay
LIFE AS A
HUMANITIES
HUSKER

FEBRUARY 4–6, 2019
Register today:
go.unl.edu/humanitieshusker
SEEKING SUBMISSIONS FROM YOUNG AUTHORS AND ARTISTS

WHO ARE WE?

PupCup Publishing is an independent publishing company created from ENGL 355 Editing and Publishing Course at University of Nebraska—Lincoln

WHAT ARE WE PUBLISHING?

PupCup Publishing is creating a literary magazine centered around the theme of youth artwork and writing, particularly ones at the high school age. There is no required topic, all we ask is that you are either currently in high school, or created the piece when in high school.

SEND ANY QUESTIONS OR SUBMISSIONS TO ACQUISITIONS EDITOR:

evelynkoch63@yahoo.com

ABOUT THE LITERARY MAGAZINE

While PupCup publishing is a class project, the literary magazine is still a legitimate publication which will have its own ISBN number and ability to be purchased.

LOOKING FOR

Artwork
Photography
Short Fiction
Essays
Poetry
Any original, non-published works

IMPORTANT NOTES

Submission does not guarantee publication
Feel free to submit multiple works, however no more than one work per author/artist will be published.
National Novel Writing Month
H/Advanced Project
Today’s Objectives

• I will be able to use metaphors to describe objects and ideas.
• I will know the difference between a personal essay and a literary journalism article.
• I will know how to organize a literary journalism article or a personal essay.
Metaphor

• Describing something by saying it is something else.

• Examples:
  – *All the world’s a stage, And all the men and women merely players; They have their exits and their entrances;* — William Shakespeare, *As You Like It*, 2/7
  
  – "Language is a road map of a culture. It tells you where its people come from and where they are going.“ - Rita Mae Brown
Using Metaphors

• Describe the object displayed. Use as many adjectives as you can.

• Describe the object again, this time without using any adjectives. Instead, use metaphors.
Wrapping Up

• Write a metaphor that describes your life.
A personal essay is a conversation with your readers.
The personal essay is an informed mixture of storytelling, facts, wisdom, and personality.
The personal essay examines a subject outside of yourself, but through the lens of self.
Passages of narrative often appear but generally get used as evidence in the inductive argument.
The personal essay strives to say what is evident, and to come to a conclusion that the reader may agree or disagree.
A personal essay can wander through its subject, circle around it, get the long view and the short, always providing experience, knowledge, book learning, and personal history.
Example Personal Essay
What’s the difference?

**Literary Journalism Article**
- Focus on the topic
- Shares information in an engaging way
- Covers the journalist’s questions

**Personal Essay**
- Focus on the author’s experience with the topic
- Shares information in a personal way
Brainstorming

• What issues or topics are of interest to you?

• Have you read any news articles that caught your attention?

• Is there a topic you’re passionate about that you think other people don’t really understand?

• Are there misconceptions about a hobby/etc. of yours that you could clarify for others?

• Have you seen a movie or tv show lately that addresses a topic you think is important?

• Have you read a fictional book or story that really made you think about a topic or problem?

• Is there a problem in the world you want to see solved?
Creative Nonfiction Assignment

• Choose a topic that is meaningful to you and other students.
• Write either a literary journalism article or a personal essay in which you creatively and engagingly communicate information and your thoughts about the topic.
• Your approach, intention, and style should show your own engagement – as a writer, as a person, as a thinking soul – with the larger world.
• The tone can be serious, ironic, humorous – experiment!
• The article or essay must involve research and reporting of facts and be presented in a literary way. Your voice should be clear and engaging.

• Focus on writing concrete descriptions and metaphors.

• You should use baby steps, thought shots, and expanded moments.
Reading for Ideas

• Look through recent newspapers and magazines.
• What articles catch your attention?
• What topics seem to be important?
• Where might your viewpoint and input add an interesting angle on an issue?
• List at least ten topics that you could research for your creative nonfiction.
Prewriting on Topics

• Compare your list of 10 topics with your group members’ lists.
• As a group, discuss the importance of the topics.
• Come up with a list of the top 5 issues or topics that affect high school students.
• Write each of your top 5 issues on a slip of paper.
Freewriting

• Write about the topic drawn. If you don’t know much about the topic, write down any questions you can come up with about the topic.
Assignment

• Write a 2-3 page personal essay or literary journalism story in which you explore the topic and/or explain the topic.
• Include research as needed and cite your sources.
Timeline

• Today: explore organization and the problem of perspective.
• Next time: Work Day and The Problem of Perspective
• November 9th – Peer Review
• November 13th – Final Draft Due
Organization

- Beginning – where you establish the topic
- Middle – discussion of the topic and development through examples
- End – Reinforce the significance. Are there next steps? Does something need to be done?

- Make sure you cover the journalist’s questions.

- Think about where you can create scenes or incorporate baby steps or thought shots.