

Memoir Assignment

- Congratulations! You have achieved great success in your field of interest and popular culture wants to hear your story. Naturally, the public wants to hear about the “real” you, so you’ll be expected to write a non-fiction memoir about your life. A publishing company has already agreed to publishing your work and they are expecting the first five pages by Friday, March 11.
- You don’t have to cover your whole life in the first five pages, just the most important events. Remember, the publishing company is counting on you to produce a great literary work so they are expecting that you include a theme to tie your piece together. The publishing company also has to maintain a good image so **your memoir can’t include any profanity or violence or else it won’t be published.**
- Your memoir should be in the 1st person narrative and it should tell the events of your life. Your theme should be present throughout the text, but remember to be implicit. Do not come out and declare what your theme is; make your reader find it. The publishing company will provide you with a laptop for one week, but they expect you to have plenty of notes and drafts ready before you start typing.
- A few tips to remember are you don’t have to talk about everything that’s happened. People only want to read about the important stuff. Also, your readers will be looking for theme. It’s one thing to tell a good life story, but it’s another thing to deliver a greater meaning or a message to tie the story together.

Format Requirements

12 point font, Times New Roman, double spaced, 1 inch margins, original title, single spaced heading in the upper left:

Name

Date

Period

Mr. Butler

Title

This is the first sentence of you memoir. It is indented because it is the first sentence of a paragraph. Notice, there is one line of space between the first two lines.

This means that they are double spaced.

Requirements

1. Final draft due FRIDAY MARCH 11
2. This assignment is worth 500 points
3. Make sure to have a draft by MONDAY MARCH 7
4. You are **required** to use the **theme worksheet** included in the assignment packet to help you develop a theme. (50 points)
5. You are **required** to use the **composition worksheet** to help you generate ideas for your memoir. (50 points)
6. You don't need to tell your story in order, and you don't need to cover everything, you can skip around.
7. Make sure you write in the 1st person
8. **No use of profanity or violence will be tolerated**
9. No late assignments will be accepted. This assignment must be printed and turned in by the end of class on FRIDAY MARCH 11. Any assignments turned in after this deadline will not be graded.

Grading Rubric

This assignment will be worth a total of:

500 points.

Composition Worksheet 50 points	Theme Worksheet 50 Points	Format Requirements* 50 points	Demonstration of Theme 200 Points	Compositional Quality 150 Points
All three exercises complete with one example written out in paragraph form in excellent detail. <p style="text-align: right;">(50)</p>	All four major components of theme defined with one central theme and three great written examples. <p style="text-align: right;">(50)</p>	All of the format requirements are met <p style="text-align: right;">(50)</p>	Demonstrates clear examples of a theme that follows all 4 components of theme . The theme is consistent and ties the text together. <p style="text-align: right;">(200)</p>	Writing style is clear and flowing with a strong narrative tone. No grammar or spelling mistakes. Use of dialogue or slang is natural and appropriate. <p style="text-align: right;">(150)</p>
Two of the three exercises complete with one example written out in paragraph form with details. <p style="text-align: right;">(40)</p>	All four major components of theme defined with one central theme and two great written examples. <p style="text-align: right;">(40)</p>	More than half of the format requirements have been followed <p style="text-align: right;">(25)</p>	Demonstrates examples of a theme that follows most of the 4 components of theme . The theme is nearly consistent throughout the text. <p style="text-align: right;">(150)</p>	Writing style is clear but choppy with moments of strong tone. Little to no grammar or spelling mistakes. Use of dialogue or slang is sometimes natural and appropriate. <p style="text-align: right;">(125)</p>
One of the three exercises complete with one example written out in paragraph form with details. <p style="text-align: right;">(20)</p>	All four major components of theme defined with one central theme and one great written examples. <p style="text-align: right;">(20)</p>	Most of the format requirements have not been met. <p style="text-align: right;">(0)</p>	Demonstrates some weak examples of a theme that follows only some of the 4 components of theme . The theme appears inconsistently and is not central to the text. <p style="text-align: right;">(130)</p>	Writing style is sometimes confusing or unfocused with no tone and little effect. Some grammar or spelling mistakes distract the reader. Use of dialogue or slang is forced. <p style="text-align: right;">(100)</p>
One of the three exercises complete with no example written out in paragraph form <p style="text-align: right;">(10)</p>	All four major components of theme defined with one central theme <p style="text-align: right;">(10)</p>	*Less than five pages automatically earns 0 points in the format category. <p style="text-align: right;">(0)</p>	Demonstrates little to no evidence of a central theme. A few weak examples only hint at a central idea to the text. <p style="text-align: right;">(100)</p>	Writing style is confusing and difficult to read. many grammar or spelling mistakes distract the reader. Use of dialogue or slang is irrelevant or inappropriate. <p style="text-align: right;">(75)</p>
Incomplete, insufficient, or unacceptable material. <p style="text-align: right;">(0)</p>	Incomplete, insufficient, or unacceptable material. <p style="text-align: right;">(0)</p>	Less than five pages. <p style="text-align: right;">(0)</p>	Incomplete, insufficient, or unacceptable material. <p style="text-align: right;">(25)</p>	Incomplete, insufficient, or unacceptable material. <p style="text-align: right;">(25)</p>

