

Paper One: Personal Literacy Narrative

Over the past few days, we've seen and read several different kinds of literacy narratives. In this **400 - 600 word essay**, you will be writing a literacy narrative of your own.

First, **decide what kind of literacy you're going to discuss**. Do you want to talk about first learning to read and write in your mother tongue? (Ex: "Superman and Me" by Sherman Alexie) Or would you rather talk about your experience with a secondary literacy? (Ex: "Military Literacy" by Erin Dietel-McLaughlin) Or would you rather focus on highlighting a single moment that illustrates your experiences or frustrations with a particular literacy? (Ex: "Mother's Breast" by Cristina D. Ramirez, "Proficiency" by Shannon Nichols) Remember, there are many different kinds of literacies that you can focus on: digital literacy, media literacy, political literacy, visual literacy, cultural literacy, and many others.

Next, **decide how you're going to tell your story**. Remember that a narrative is, first and foremost, a story, so determine the best way to get the point of your story across. If you need some step-by-step guidance in developing your narrative, please consult *The Norton Field Guide to Writing's* reference page for "Writing a Literacy Narrative":

http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/write/fieldguide/writing_guides.asp

Consider some of the following questions as you develop your narrative: When, if ever, have you felt most motivated to read or write? What, if any, obstacles have you encountered as a reader and writer? What do you know about reading and writing? What do you know about yourself as a reader and a writer? **Your goal here is both to vividly describe your experiences and to analyze why your experiences were significant.**

Finally, we will be conducting an **in-class peer review workshop** to revise your work in progress. You will need to bring a **substantial first draft** (at least one full page) to class on workshop day and collect **at least three peer responses** to your draft on your **Response Chart**.

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITY:

If you make an appointment with a Writing Center Tutor and complete a Revision Agenda, you may turn it in with your Final Draft for **5 points extra credit** on this paper.

Due Dates:	
Wednesday, September 10 th	Rough Draft DUE (3 copies for Workshop)
Monday, September 15 th	Final Draft DUE (Turn in with Response Chart and Optional Revision Agenda)