

Prof. Gold
ENG 1101
City Tech
Fall 2011

Paper #1 Assignment: Personal Narrative

Length: 3 Pages, MLA Format

Due Date: September 13, 2011

Learning Goals:

- learn to center each paragraph around a specific topic and to begin each paragraph with a topic sentence;
- learn to use transition statements to move the reader from paragraph to paragraph;
- learn to format your papers according to MLA guidelines;
- learn to write with clear, grammatically correct prose.

Topic: Describe a personal experience you've had with some artifact (a photo, a piece of writing, a book, an object) from the past. Begin the paper by describing your actual encounter with the object, and include sensory details – what did it look/smell/feel/taste like? How did you begin to explore it and make sense of it? What thoughts did you have upon seeing it for the first time, and how did those thoughts develop as you looked at it? What conversations did it lead to afterwards, and what memories did it bring up?

Guidelines for Writing:

- For a description of the MLA format, please see the class handout. You can also visit this website for guidance: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>

How to get started:

- Begin working on the essay as early as possible
- Use free-writing and brainstorming lists to come up with ideas
- Create a rough outline before getting started

Things to Remember:

- Center each paragraph around one major topic and include a topic sentence at the start of every paragraph.

If you have questions or concerns, please send me an email: mgold@citytech.cuny.edu