Prof. Fox ENG 1101

**Literacy Narrative Assignment**

25% Brainstorming *and* worksheet is due: 9/9

Introduction and outline of ideas is due: 9/18

50% Complete draft of essay is due: 9/23

25% Revised essay is due: TBA

The completed draft due on 9/23 should be 1200 words, in Times NR, 12 pt font, double-spaced

**About Literacy Narratives:**

The point of a literacy narrative is to help us reflect upon the range of our experiences as writers. Of course, we might think first of school, where over time we’ve learned that different subjects and classes have their own “rules” for how they are to be written about. We’ve learned over time that the expectations or “rules” for a piece of writing also depends on things like the teacher for whom we are writing and his or her views *about* the subject or perhaps *about* students. We’ve likely paid attention to who else is in that room, too. Some memories of what we wrote, and how we wrote it, may be good ones, others, not so much. There is also a plethora of places outside of school where we have done writing as part of very different “discourse communities.” These might include writing we do with and for family (“thank you” notes, anyone?), friends, online (ever write a YELP review or type and talk on a game?), workplaces, religious activities, or hobbies and other interests. A full picture of all this writing would constitute something like the literacy narrative of our lives. For this assignment, our focus will be a bit narrower (and more manageable), as I am asking you to choose to write about one meaningful time you wrote something.

**Directions:** Choose one of the topics below to help you reflect upon a memorable writing experience in your life. What were your thoughts and feelings about it then? Now? Tell us about the process involved in actually doing the writing (over a day? a week?), and how different parts of this process made you feel. Can you put this experience in the context of other writing you’ve done in your life since then, whether in school or outside of it? Who was the intended audience for this piece of writing and how did that relate to your feelings about writing it?

**Choose one of these topics for your Literacy Narrative:**

1. A time when you were excited to write about something you already knew about, were dying to learn more about, or really loved
2. A time when writing made you feel awful
3. A time you were super proud of having written something
4. A time you wrote something that really helped someone else in an important way
5. A different scenario? Let’s talk about it!

**The Pre-Writing worksheet**

Use the boxes below to help you brainstorm or list ideas and details about your writing experience. Think about when and where it was. Think about the names of any people, places, or thing connected to it for you. At home, look over your completed worksheet and with a colored pen or pencil, circle or underline the ideas, examples, or details you like the best.

Completed pre-writing worksheet due on 9/9 with your brainstorming

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Ex. Mrs. Jones’s 7th grade essay on a world landmark—mine—pyramid at Giza | Didn’t see myself as a history person or writer  panic 3 days before first time using new pc  -used highlighted passages in my textbook | Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, etc |
| Writing a T’Day recipe with my Aunt Martha—her sweet potato pie  Used her old green index cards  wrote it longhand in blue pencil | Finally bonded with her worked on it all wknd became my fav aunt learned the term “blind bake” | Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, etc |
| Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, etc | Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, etc | Xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx, etc |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

*PRE-WRITING WORKSHEET for Literacy Narrative*