**Write On!**

**Informal Essay Writing Assignment:**

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**Your task…**

1. You may choose to write a: narrative, descriptive, persuasive or humorous essay.
2. You may choose to record an audio version of an informal essay (narrative, descriptive, persuasive, or humorous), if you would like to emphasis tone of voice
3. You may create your own way to convey an informal essay (check with me for approval)

**Brainstorm!! C:\Users\Laurel\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\2JFQRCII\MC900071191[1].wmf**

Create the table below in your notes… fill in as many areas as possible to generate a great essay idea!

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Memories | Meaningful People | Important Places | Issues on my Mind | Life Lessons | Other???? |

**Developing your ideas…**

Once you have a topic, fill in the organizer below. Remember! Informal essays have varying structures, so the method by which you develop the paper should match the development of the topic. The following components MUST be present in your essay:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Unique Title** | Use MLA format… be sure your title is an interest catcher! |
| **Three Unique rhetorical devices** | Each device should be **highlighted** or underlined on the paper. As well, label the device to show your intention. Remember! Devices are meant to add emphasis to the thesis or the style. |
| **Two Sentences crafted for Emphasis** | Now that you are a sentence variety genius, put your knowledge to work! Vary your sentences throughout. Choose TWO that are particularly successful. Underline them and label them for type. |
| **Implied thesis that is foreshadowed throughout** | Your essay’s content should SUBTLY hint at the implied thesis… it should never be a surprise nor should it be explicit. Your readers will infer from your content. |
| **Audience and Purpose are clear** | Develop your essay using diction, content and colloquialisms typical for the audience you have in mind. Likewise, determine a suitable purpose and stick with it. |
| **Tone** | Tone should always match content so that meaning is developed thoroughly. Use your tutorial and DIDLS for help. |

**Create a Rough Draft…**

Once you have completed the preliminary work, start writing!

As a guide, your informal essays should be 2-5 pages in length.

**Informal Essay Rubric**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4/4 +** |
| **Evaluation Explanation** | Quality of expression is adequate but not strong, concept could have been developed using more detail, thesis is either vague or not clear to the reader, some of the following are missing: creative diction, clear tone, transitional devices, rhetorical devices, appeal to audience needs more emphasis, language skills are weak, errors in spelling and grammar distract, potential was not fully developed. | Quality of argument/expression is good. Style lacks sophistication/creativity.  Thesis has been established but could have been developed in a more interesting style, consider a stronger or more unique target audience, sensory elements could be more vivid, some appeals to reader’s emotion/persuasive techniques could be stronger, tone is consistent but could be more definite and clear, diction is appropriate for the most part. No major weaknesses in language, writing, grammar – some small errors. | Quality of ideas/argument and expression are very good. Style is unique and writer’s voice is clear. For the most part, style reinforces ideas. Almost all of the criteria below is included: thesis developed with relevant content, diction is carefully chosen to convey meaning, sentences are varied to add interest, sensory appeal is vivid, introduction and conclusion effectively convey content, tone is very well linked to content and is established using DIDLS. Elements of writing have been fully edited. | Quality of expression/ideas/argument is outstanding. Style reinforces ideas in an exceptional way. Chosen thesis is unique, complex and insightful.  Essay is really interesting and/or thought provoking. Title is catchy and relevant to content, diction, sentences and devices reinforce the thesis in an exceptional way. If persuasive, a multitude of techniques has been used to present the argument and appeal to emotion/change in opinion. Grammar, spelling and language are flawless. The writing stands out – unique, original, memorable. |