

Portfolio Assignment

Assignment #1- Title Page

Assignment #2- Table of Contents

Assignment #3

Opinion Piece Topics

Choose a topic from the following topic choices. You must choose one of the following topics.

- 1. Fishing seasons should be made shorter in order to ensure that fish populations are large enough to support the fishing industry**
- 2. All teams in professional sports should lower ticket prices so EVERY family can have the opportunity to attend a game.**

Writing a Series of Paragraphs Expressing an Opinion

Name: _____

Task: Write a minimum of three paragraphs expressing an opinion on the topic below. Develop your idea with supporting details, facts and examples.

Topic: Choose your topic from the previous page and write it here:

Thesis Statement: (Yes or No) Yes/no I do not think that:

_____ because

(reason 1) _____

(reason 2) _____

(reason 3) _____

Topic Sentence: Write reason 1 from introductory Paragraph

Supporting statement for #1/Conclusion

Topic Sentence: Write reason 2 from introductory Paragraph

Supporting statement for #2/Conclusion

Conclusion, (restate thesis) _____

Summarize Supporting Reasons _____

Topic Sentence: Write reason 2 from introductory Paragraph

Supporting statement for #2/Conclusion

OLC 401- Opinion Piece Format

The opinion piece has 5 paragraphs. After filling in a “Writing Series of Paragraphs Expressing an Opinion” handout, use the following template to help you write your opinion piece.

Paragraph #1- Introduction

- ✓ State your thesis (your “yes” or “no” statement)
- ✓ State your three supporting arguments

Example: Yes, I believe that Fellowes High School is the best High School in all of Renfrew County because, it has great school spirit, it offers great programs and because it has the best teachers in the entire county.

Paragraph #2- Body Paragraph #1

- ✓ Restate your thesis
- ✓ Restate your first supporting argument
- ✓ Expand and explain your FIRST supporting argument
- ✓ Conclude your body paragraph by writing “Therefore” and then restating your thesis and your FIRST supporting argument

Paragraph #3- Body Paragraph #2

- ✓ Restate your thesis
- ✓ Restate your SECOND supporting argument
- ✓ Expand and explain your SECOND supporting argument
- ✓ Conclude your body paragraph by writing “Therefore” and then restating your thesis and your SECOND supporting argument

Paragraph #4- Body Paragraph #3

- ✓ Restate your thesis
- ✓ Restate your THIRD supporting argument
- ✓ Expand and explain your THIRD supporting argument
- ✓ Conclude your body paragraph by writing “Therefore” and then restating your thesis and your THIRD supporting argument

Paragraph #5- Conclusion

- ✓ Write “Therefore”
- ✓ Restate your thesis and your three supporting arguments (your introduction)

Assignment #4- Writing a Narrative

Name: _____

How to Write a Narrative

Decide your story's adversity

- **Activity 1:** Complete the sheet "Brainstorming ideas for narrative writing"
- **Activity 2:** Complete the handout titled "Possible Narrative Topics" to help you narrow down what your story will be about

Think 'big picture' about your story

- **Activity 3:** Start thinking about the big picture of your story by completing the "Possible Narrative Elements Ideas" handout. From these ideas you will choose a specific plot to base your story around.

Establish your plot

- **Activity 4:** Develop your plot by considering the beginning, middle and end to your story. The "Developing your plot" handout will help you with this

Narrative Text

Activity 1: Brainstorming Ideas for Narrative Writing

Use the following graphic organizer to brainstorm ideas for your narrative. In each box write examples of problems, difficult things to overcome or examples of adversity

School

Example: Failing a course

Family/Friends

Example: Losing a close family member to a death

Work

Example: Getting fired from a job.

Relationships (Girlfriends/Boyfriends)

Example: Getting in a fight with your boyfriend/girlfriend

Write your narrative

Activity 2: Possible Narrative Topics

1. In the space below write three possible ideas that you have considered that you might use to write your narrative about. Remember, each topic must somehow involve **overcoming adversity**.

Potential narrative writing ideas	Put a check in the box if the answer is yes
Idea # 1:	<input type="checkbox"/> I know enough about this subject <input type="checkbox"/> This subject is 'big' enough to write about
Idea # 2:	<input type="checkbox"/> I know enough about this subject <input type="checkbox"/> This subject is 'big' enough to write about
Idea # 3:	<input type="checkbox"/> I know enough about this subject <input type="checkbox"/> This subject is 'big' enough to write about

2. Which of the ideas is your favourite? _____

3. Why do you think that this is the best subject to write about? _____

Activity 3: Possible Narrative Elements Ideas

Now that you've got a topic in mind for your narrative, it's time to start thinking about some of the narrative elements that you will use in your story. Using the graphic organizer below, come up with at least 20 ideas for your favourite narrative idea. You may use point form. Use a blank piece of paper if you need more space. Remember, this is only a brainstorming stage, your ideas may change along the way.

Plot (A summary of WHAT your story will be about)

Characters (The WHO of your story)

Setting (The WHEN and WHERE of your story)

Others (any other ideas that you might come up with that don't fit in the other categories)

Name: _____

Activity 4: Developing your plot

<p>Beginning -The problem or 'adversity' is introduced</p>	
<p>Middle -The problem or 'adversity' becomes even more complicated -The protagonist (good guy) challenges the antagonist (bad guy)</p>	
<p>End -The problem or 'adversity' is solved</p>	

Activity 5: Character Development

Characters are a very important element of narratives. It is important to know which characters you will have in your story before you start writing your narrative.

Remember: Characters are usually introduced in the **BEGINNING** of a narrative.

Two important narrative elements are the protagonist and the antagonist:

Protagonist: _____

Antagonist: _____

1. Use the spaces below to list the characters you plan to have in your narrative. Remember your narrative must have AT LEAST one character who overcomes adversity (the protagonist).

a) Protagonist's name: _____

- The narrative will follow this character's actions and adventure
- This character overcomes a type of adversity.

↪ The adversity (problem/obstacle) that this character faces is:

↪ The way that this character overcomes (solves) this adversity is:

b) Antagonist's name: _____

- This character tries to stop the protagonist from achieving his goal (either on purpose or by accident)

Assignment #6- Descriptive Paragraph

OLC 401- Writing Descriptive Paragraphs

Purpose: to describe a person, place, thing to create a clear vivid picture with words

Writing Tips: Give a lot of describing words. Give sensory details: sight, sound, smell, taste and touch

1. Once you have settled on a topic for your descriptive paragraph collect some details, you're ready to assemble those details in a rough draft that begins with a topic sentence.



Pay attention to the details and *show* the reader what you mean. Specific details create word pictures that can make writing more interesting and easier to understand. Describe particular smells and tastes in the paragraph. Use the most descriptive words possible to allow the reader to smell or taste what you are describing. For example: "The homemade cookies filled the air with the scent of warm chocolate, and the chocolate morsels filled your mouth with the taste of cocoa."



Next, you will put these details into sentences and organize the sentences into a paragraph. Add the senses of touch and hearing to your paragraph wherever possible. Describe certain textures and sounds. For example: "The silk garment felt smooth and fluid over my skin, and it had the sound of a gentle breeze."



Use similes and metaphors when you write your descriptive paragraph. These literary devices strengthen your paragraph if used properly. For example: "my pillow felt as soft as a cloud"



Now you will revise your descriptive paragraph, concentrating on its organization. That is, you will check to see that your sentences follow a clear and logical order, each detail related to the one that came before and leading to the one that follows



You're *almost* done. It's now time to invite someone else (a classmate, for example, or your instructor) to read your descriptive paragraph and suggest ways to improve it.

My topic is

Some details about my topic:

Topic Sentence:

Similes or Metaphors I can use to describe details

Descriptive Words I can use

Rough Paragraph

Self/Peer/Teacher Revisions

Assignment #8- Informational Paragraph

Informational Paragraphs

A paragraph is a series of sentences that are organized and coherent, and are all related to a single topic. Almost every piece of writing we do that is longer than a few sentences should be organized into paragraphs.

The **information paragraph** might describe a place, character, or process; narrate a series of events; compare or contrast two or more things; classify items into categories; or describe causes and effects.

Regardless of the kind of information they contain, all paragraphs share certain characteristics. One of the most important of these is a **topic sentence**.

Topic Sentence:

A well-organized paragraph supports or develops a single controlling idea, which is expressed in a sentence called the topic sentence. A topic sentence has several important functions:

- It unifies the content of a paragraph and directs the order of the sentences
- It advises the reader of the subject to be discussed and how the paragraph will discuss it
- Readers generally look to the first few sentences in a paragraph to determine the subject and perspective of the paragraph. That's why it's often best to put the topic sentence at the very beginning of the paragraph.

Paragraph Structure:

Paragraphs have a three-part structure—introduction, body, and conclusion. You can see this structure in paragraphs whether they are narrating, describing, comparing, contrasting, or analyzing information or just simply giving information.

Each part of the paragraph plays an important role in communicating your meaning to your reader.

1. Introduction : the first section of a paragraph; should include the topic sentence and any other sentences at the beginning of the paragraph that give background information or provide a transition.
2. Body : follows the introduction; discusses the controlling idea, using facts, arguments, analysis, examples, and other information.
3. Conclusion : the final section; summarizes the connections between the information discussed in the body of the paragraph and the paragraph's controlling idea.

Writing the Informational Paragraph

When you write a well-constructed information paragraph, remember the following things:

- Before you begin to write, choose at least 4 related details (facts and information)
 - Identify the main idea of your paragraph in the topic sentence
 - Use the 4 related details to create 3 to 5 supporting sentences.
 - Organize the facts and details in a way that is easy to follow, such as chronological or time order.
 - Use connecting words between ideas and sentences to help the reader follow along.
 - All details and facts must support the main idea in the topic sentence.
 - Provide a concluding sentence for your paragraph
 - Use correct spelling, grammar and punctuation so that your paragraph is clear and easy to read.
- **Piecing Together Your Paragraph (Follow the Directions)**
 - Some Suggestions:
 - Choose a Topic - "How To. " (drive a car, replace a ball-joint, plan the perfect party, survive a night of babysitting, quit smoking, get through high-school, beat your favourite video-game, how to shoot a free-throw, how to get a date, etc.)
 - - "Compare and Contrast" (being a kid versus being a teenager, two places you have visited/lived, two fast-food restaurants, two professional athletes, how you are treated versus how your brother/sister is treated, etc.)

Choose 4 related details:

1.

2.

3.

4.

Introductory Sentence:

Topic Chosen + brief examples from Related Details

Body Sentences:

Now use the 4 Related Details to create 3 to 5 supporting sentences.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Organization:

Now, organize these Body Sentences into some sort of logical order (chronological, order of importance, etc.)

Use connecting words between ideas and sentences to help the reader follow along. You may add sentences if necessary.

Concluding Sentence:

This sentence sums up what you have discussed in your paragraph.

Proofread, Revise, and Edit

Have somebody read over your paragraph and revise any errors and edit any mistakes

