

Peddie Summer Day School

Course Syllabus: ESSAY WRITING 8

Teacher: Judy Kirschenbaum

Textbook: Sebranck, Patrick, Dave Kemper, and Verne Meyer. *Write Source: A Book for Writing, Thinking, and Learning 10*. Wilmington, Massachusetts: Great Source Education Group, 2007.

Various short stories “The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost (Poem); “Thank You Ma’am” by Langston Hughes (Fiction); “Charles” by Shirley Jackson (Fiction); “Rain, Rain Go Away” by Isaac Asimov (Fiction); “All Summer in a Day” by Ray Bradbury (Fiction); “What Money Can’t Buy” by Rick Reilly (Non-Fiction)

Objective

- Students will be able to write in a more fluent manner in a variety of writing genre.
- Students will write all forms of essays and various compositions within those categories.

The Writing Process

- Building good writing habits: prewriting, writing, revising, editing, and publishing.
- Understanding the traits of writing: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency.
- Peer-responding: How to use the traits of writing to respond.
- Using rubrics: Understanding and assessing with rubrics
- Creating a portfolio: Assembling a portfolio utilizing one of four basic types - showcase, growth, personal, or electronic.

The Forms of Writing

- Narrative Writing
 - Narrative paragraph-shares an important experience
 - Phase autobiography-recreates an extended period in life that changed a person
 - Historical narrative-a significant experience of the past is shared
 - Writing for assessment-responding to narrative prompts
- Expository Writing
 - Expository paragraph-shares important information about a specific topic
 - Cause/effect essay—uses an important historical event to form connections with other times and events
 - Essay of definition-illustrates understanding of a concept and its importance
 - Writing for assessment-responding to expository prompts
- Persuasive Writing
 - Persuasive paragraph-expresses an opinion about a specific topic and contains effective evidence and details to support the opinion.
 - Problem/solution essay-clearly explains a problem and then proposes a solution
 - Editorial: expresses an opinion on a timely and important topic
 - Writing for assessment-responding to a persuasive prompt

- Response to Literature
 - Analyzing a theme essay-examines a message about life in a piece of literature through the characters and unfolding events
 - Writing for assessment-responding to fiction and non-fiction prompts
- Writing Across the Curriculum
 - Science: lab report, problem/solution essay, process essay, and science article summary
 - Social Studies: descriptive report, editorial cartoon analysis, document-based essay(DBQ)
 - Mathematics: article summary, written estimate, statistical argument, response to math prompt on test
 - Applied Sciences: descriptive essay. Comparison/contrast essay, analysis essay, forms of practical writing
 - The Arts: response to art prompt on test, research report, narrative writing, creative writing