

Name: _____

Date: _____

BUILDING A SCENE: PERSONAL NARRATIVE – GUIDELINES

Writing Workshop #1

To demonstrate your mastery of *Writing Workshop #1*, you will complete the “Building a Scene: Personal Narrative.” You will recreate an important conversation in your life. You will use the components of a scene (dialogue, speaker tags, descr. speaker tags, snapshots, thoughtshots) to establish setting, characterization, conflict, and mood. For this writing task, utilize ALL materials from Writing Workshop #1.

WHAT DO YOU NEED IN YOUR SCENE?

1. 10 lines MINIMUM of dialogue

****Note:** Introductory and closing lines (e.g. “Hey!” and “Bye!”) are not included as these should not be utilized within your scene.

2. 4 speaker tags MINIMUM using variations of said

- All “said” variations must be different.
- All “said” variations should reflect the emotions of the speakers.

3. 2 descriptive speaker tags MINIMUM

- 1 descriptive speaker tag MINIMUM using a traditional adverb
- 1 descriptive speaker tag MINIMUM using a prepositional phrase

4. 14 snapshots MINIMUM

- 7 snapshots MINIMUM that reference the setting throughout the scene
- 7 snapshots MINIMUM that reference character movements/actions throughout the scene
- Within your snapshots, you must utilize 3 out of the 5 senses.
- Your snapshots should “paint the picture” for your readers.

5. 3 thoughtshots MINIMUM

- Your thoughtshots can include internal dialogue.
- Consider potential flashbacks and/or background info that could be included.

6. 3 “show, don’t tell” examples of character emotion

- These should be snapshots and/or thoughtshots that REVEAL character emotion.
- These examples are IN ADDITION to your snapshots and thoughtshots.

IN ADDITION...

- Your scene should adhere to the conventions of punctuating dialogue.
- Your scene should be told from the FIRST PERSON point of view.
- Your scene should be written in the PRESENT TENSE.
- Your scene should immediately bring the reader into an important moment (meaning, no “background info” paragraph / introductory paragraph at the start)

****Tip:** Try starting your dialogue scene immediately with a line of dialogue!

ROUGH DRAFT IS DUE IN CLASS ON FRIDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2017.

FINAL DRAFT IS DUE IN CLASS ON TUESDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2017.

****You need THREE copies of your paper in class on Tuesday.****