

English 10 • MEMOIR: Giving Voice to Stories of Self

Writing Workshop: Using Language to Communicate Rich, Impactful Ideas in Interesting Ways

Memoir: Summative Assessment Rubric

E n g l i s h 1 0 - W r i t i n g W o r k s h o p

Criteria	1	2	3	4	5
Commitment to Writing Process (Outcome 10.4)	One draft only. No evidence of writing process.	Limited commitment to process. Minimal evidence of writing process.	Acceptable commitment to writing process. Evidence of at least one earlier draft and revision strategies instructed in workshop.	Commendable commitment to writing process. Evidence of at least two drafts and all revision strategies instructed in workshop and teacher feedback.	Extensive commitment to process. Multiple drafts and revisions go beyond instructed revision strategies and teacher feedback.
Ideas (Main idea= the SO WHAT? of the memoir.)	The “So What?” is not evident. Little to no idea development.	It's hard to figure out the “So What?” Reads like a random collection of details about the event.	The reader can name the “So What?” The writing contains some interesting details, but it could use more. (May be information that is not needed.)	The “So What?” of the memoir is clear. Memoir contains many interesting details that focus on developing the main idea.	The “So What?” of the memoir comes through clearly. It is full of interesting, unique details that hold the reader's attention and focus on developing the main idea.
Organization	The memoir is hard to follow. There is no sense of a controlling pattern. The memoir just starts without any kind of hook and ends suddenly.	The writing is not organized in a straightforward manner or it is disjointed/ wanders at times which interferes with communication of main idea. There is a lead and conclusion, but they are safe or predictable.	The writing is organized in a straightforward manner but control of paragraphing, pacing and transitions falters at times. Solid lead and conclusion.	The writing is organized in a way that suits the narrative and is easy to follow. Effective paragraph choices, pacing and transitions seen throughout. Effective lead and conclusion.	The writing is strategically organized for effect in a way that suits the narrative and is easy to follow. Effective paragraph choices, pacing and transitions seen consistently. Skillful lead and conclusion.
Voice	The writing lacks personality or an authoritative voice who knows the significance of the topic.	The writing is inconsistent in its authoritative voice. There is a sense the writer knows the significance of the topic but it does not shine through.	The writing is safe but some parts have a little flair. The significance may be evident but not written to establish connection with the reader.	The writing is lively. There is the stamp of an authoritative writer who is able to reveal the significance of the topic to the reader.	The writing is full of enthusiasm and energy. There is the unmistakable stamp of an authoritative writer and a sense that the significance of the event is a common human experience.
Word Choice	Writing lacks awareness of word choice qualities of memoir writing	Writing shows glimpses of awareness of word choice qualities of memoir writing but it is not consistent.	Writing includes vocabulary that is suited to the topic/genre, but it tends to tell what happened rather than “writing the senses” of the experience.	Detailed, specific and varied vocabulary frequently enhances the memoir. Few wasted words or vague expressions. Frequent and effective examples of conversation and “writing the senses”.	The detailed, specific and varied vocabulary consistently enhances the memoir. No wasted words or vague expressions. Conversations allow the reader to hear the characters; descriptions allow the reader to see, feel, taste , smell the narrative.
Conventions of Writing (Spelling, Grammar, Usage)	There are so many mistakes in this piece it makes it difficult for a reader to understand.	There are quite a few errors in this piece which occasionally make it difficult for a reader to understand.	The writer has attempted to adhere to the formatting required and spelling, grammar, & usage conventions, but there are some errors in this piece. It appears the writer is not yet aware of how to use conventions to enhance their ideas.	The memoir carefully adheres to the formatting required and spelling, grammar & usage conventions. Few errors, and only seen in mature constructions/ usage situations.	The memoir adheres impeccably to the formatting required and spelling, grammar & usage conventions. Virtually no errors.

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Memoir: Summative Assessment Checklist

E n g l i s h 1 0 - W r i t i n g W o r k s h o p

Name: _____

Your final project package must include the following elements:

1. Title page	✓	x
2. Table of Contents (should include all items listed below by letter):	✓	x
a. Memory map	✓	x
b. Draft plan/ “ingredients” list	✓	x
c. Memoir Draft #1	✓	x
d. Conference notes for draft #1	✓	x
g. Writer’s reflection	✓	x
h. Revised Memoir	✓	x
i. Final Draft	✓	x
- Insert/text wrap at least one image (photo/drawing)	✓	x
- 10-12 point font	✓	x
- single spaced, indent paragraphs	✓	x
j. Self-assessment (complete rubric on back of this checklist)	✓	x

Due: _____