

Name _____ Class Period _____

Power Cycle Project: Memoirs

*Telling our story does not merely document who we are,
it helps to MAKE us who we are.*

- Rita Charon

This cycle we are going to write and publish a memoir. These memoirs will provide us an opportunity to explore the power words have, both in how they impact the telling of our story and in how telling our story gives us power over our lives.

Memoirs are exciting because they invite writers to tell *their own truth*. They are less rigid than biographies and narrative essays, and publishing our memoirs will help us experience the full cycle of professional writing.

This project packet will guide you through the process. This project will also be undertaken in true Montessori fashion, meaning you will set your own learning goals and take ownership for achieving them. But as always, ask for help if you need it. We want this to be an enjoyable project with plenty of freedom for you to learn, grow, and play as a writer.

Essential Questions We'll Consider:

What power do words hold?

How does word choice help or hinder our expression of thoughts and ideas?

Student Created Goals/Rubric

Please evaluate the following standards and write your corresponding achievement goals. Note your list of what makes a memoir great (covered in class on 1/30 & 1/31) to help you set achievement goals.

Standards

W3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

Your Goal: What do you need to do to show mastery? What writing techniques will you use?

W4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

Your Goal: What do you need to do to show mastery? What writing techniques will you use?

W6: Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and share writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to display information flexibly and dynamically.

Your Goal: What do you need to do to show mastery? What writing techniques will you use?

Date	Student Work
1/22 & 1/23	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free Reading 2. Introduction to Memoirs
1/24 & 1/25	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free Reading 2. Reading and Responding to Memoirs
1/26 & 1/29	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free Reading 2. Reading and Responding to Memoirs <p>W4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task. RL 5: Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style. RL10: Analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone. RL 5: Analyze how an author's choices create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise.</p> <p>(This work will be turned in at the end of class. All other work will be held and submitted at the end of the project.)</p>
1/30 & 1/31	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free Reading 2. Brainstorming a List of Memoir Topics 3. Creating List of Effective Elements of a Memoir
2/1 & 2/2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free Reading 2. Creating Your Project Rubric <p>You should have your memoir topic now. List it below:</p>

2/5 & 2/6	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Free Reading2. Lessons and Practice Work <p>Work Log: What did you work on today? What did you learn?</p>
2/7 & 2/8	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Free Reading2. Lessons and Practice Work <p>Work Log: What did you work on today? What did you learn?</p>
2/9 & 2/12 COW	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Free Reading2. Book Creator Video Lesson3. Work Cycle and Writer Conferences4. Make Up Lessons if Needed <p>Work Log: What did you work on today? What did you learn?</p>

2/13 & 2/14 COW	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Free Reading2. Work Cycle and Writer Conferences3. Make Up Lessons if Needed <p>Work Log: What did you work on today? What did you learn?</p>
2/15 & 2/16 COW	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Free Reading2. Work Cycle and Writer Conferences <p>Work Log: What did you work on today? What did you learn?</p>
2/20 & 2/21 COW	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Free Reading2. Work Cycle and Writer Conferences <p>Work Log: What did you work on today? What did you learn?</p>

2/22 & 2/23 COW	<p>Preparing for Literacy Week:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sharing Your Book With the Class2. Submitting Your Work <p>Work Log: What did you work on today? What did you learn?</p>
2/22 & 2/23	<p>By this date, you should have the following completed and checked off by Ms. Shilo or Ms. Wendy. All work and this checklist needs to be kept and submitted together on 2/22 or 2/23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">___ 4 Writing Lessons___ 4 Pieces of Practice Work (From the Lessons)___ 2 Conferences With Ms. Shilo___ Work Log for Each Class___ Peer Editing Notes and Rough Draft___ Final Draft___ Memoir Book or Ebook

Required and Optional Lessons

Please select and attend 4 of the 5 required lessons and do the follow up work. Follow up work should be held and submitted later with this completed packet. Provide notes below in regards to which lessons you attended.

Required Lessons:

Hook/leads

Thoughts and Feelings

Making the Movie

Dialogue

Transitions

Optional Lessons:

Figurative Language

Tone

Varied Sentence Length

Date & Teacher Check Off	Lesson Selected and Follow Up Work Notes

Writing Conferences

Please attend 2 writing conferences with Ms. Shilo.

Date & Teacher Check Off	Conference and Follow Up Work Notes

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