

Preparing for Essay #1

Directions

The first essay will be a reflective (expressive) essay with a focus narrowed from **ONE** of the following general topics. Choose a topic below to develop into a reflective essay. Begin by freewriting on the topic.

- (1) Describe, narrate, and analyze an experience that changed your life in some way or that made you think differently about something or someone;
- (2) Describe and discuss the importance of a specific item or place in your life

By responding to the general topics above, you will come up with a focus for your essay that will communicate to your audience (your classmates and myself) something you have learned that you think is significant to you. You may have learned how an experience has changed you in some way or changed your mind about some situation or subject. You may have had an experience from which you have learned some important facts of living. You may describe and recall a certain place or item that has meant a lot to you or that reminds you of a significant event or person in your life.

We will read essays by students and professional writers who have written reflective essays on similar topics. These essays will serve as models for your writing and may also suggest techniques for developing your ideas.

You will also have the opportunity later to revise this essay for possible publication on my CTC web page. To see how other students responded to this and similar topics, go to my web site at www.anitagale.com, and click the link to my CTC web page.

Format

We will discuss drafts of your essay in class, but the final draft must be word-processed, double-spaced, with a title centered on the first line. You should also include a heading in the upper left-hand corner of the essay with:

Your name,
Professor's name,
Class, and
Date.

You will also turn in your portfolio on this date, which will include the rough drafts of the essay as well as in-class writings and out-of-class responses to readings.