

Core C Comp and Lit | Personal Essay Assignment

For your final full essay assignment of the year, you will compose a personal essay, patterned after Alice Walker's "My Mother's Blue Bowl." Walker's piece takes a simple object from her past and fills it with meaning using literary devices, personal details, and a conversational tone.

A personal essay displays 3 key characteristics: a first-person point of view, a conversational tone, and a style that conveys the author's personality. It relies heavily on autobiographical details (facts about the author's life) and literary devices such as anecdote, humor, repetition, imagery, simile/metaphor, and personification.

Assignment: Write a personal essay (500 - 600 words) focused on a significant item in your life. Find a personal keepsake or a photograph of one. Briefly describe the object and its place in your life today, sharing the memories that make the object meaningful to you. Your essay should be written from the first-person point of view and include literary and stylistic elements along with personal details which will make your essay both interesting and relatable. Submit as an MLA-formatted document both via Turn-it-in and in class.

Due: Thursday, 4/21 (Final drafts only)

Points: 30 Essay

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