

STUDENT \_\_\_\_\_

**ENGLISH II, QUARTER 1  
PERSONAL NARRATIVE**

Write one personal narrative of at least five paragraphs that provides a personal experience that really happened, usually about an event of special importance. The topic should be the lesson(s) learned from the experience. Use the standard essay format. Provide specific details so the reader may clearly see what you are **talking about**. Use correct spelling, punctuation, grammar . . .

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

**USE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PROMPTS:**

- 1. TELL A STORY** about a time in your life when you would have liked to do or say something over again so a situation would have turned out differently.
- 2. All people at some point in their lives must wait for something they want very much. It might be an object or an event, or . . . Think of a time in your life when you had to wait for something and TELL THE STORY OF WHAT HAPPENED AND WHY.**
- 3. Remember a time when you were in a competitive situation. TELL A TRUE STORY** about what happened and how things turned out.
- 4. Everyone does some form of work. It might be helping at home or at a friend's, toiling at school, or on a paid job. TELL A STORY** about something you experienced while working.
- 5. Something exciting emerges in everyone's lives. Select one of the most exciting things that popped up in your life and TELL A STORY** about what happened and how you were affected.

Student \_\_\_\_\_

**ENGLISH II, QUARTER 1  
EXPOSITORY ESSAY**

**Write one expository essay of at least five paragraphs in which a topic is explained, defined, or made clear, by using facts and details. The reader learns about something from the information that you provide. Use the standard essay format, correct punctuation, spelling, and grammar. Be clear and complete in what you say!**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Use one of the following prompts for your paper:

- 1. Everyone has a favorite place when he/she is growing up, a place that he/she feels a part of. Describe your favorite place (try to pick somewhere other than your bedroom) and EXPLAIN why is your favorite place in the world. Be careful to use well crafted description.**
- 2. A lot of people wear T-shirts with slogans on them. If you had to chose one slogan for a T-shirt, what would it say and look like? The slogan must be appropriate to wear at Career-Tech . Describe the slogan and EXPLAIN how the slogan fits you and what you stand for, and why you chose it.**
- 3. EXPLAIN how a character in a book, a movie, TV, or a person in real life demonstrates qualities you like and why you feel these qualities are important.**
- 4. John Donne’s saying, “No man is an island,” suggests that what a person does has an effect on others. EXPLAIN how this quote applies to you and what you have experienced.**

Student \_\_\_\_\_

**ENGLISH II, QUARTER 1  
PERSUASIVE WRITING**

**Write a persuasive essay, of at least five paragraphs in length, in which you convince the reader to think or to act, as you would like him/her to. Persuasive writing is seen in advertising, political speeches, editorials, lying, teacher nagging . . . Make sure your argument is a winner. Use the standard essay format, correct spelling, punctuation, sentence construction . . . Be clear, and complete, and believable.**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

**Chose one of the following prompts for your essay:**

- 1. Students usually have brilliant ideas about how the place they live might be changed for the better. Think of one change that you feel would benefit the place. Write an essay in which you CONVINCe the readers that the change you propose should be made.**
- 2. Some feel that the United States government is “broken.” Select one thing that you feel helps make the government dysfunctional and why and CONVINCe THE READER THAT YOU HAVE A SOLUTION. You might need to do a little research.**
- 3. Each of us would like to change someone’s mind about something. Perhaps there is something you’d like a friend, parent, teacher, public official, or whomever to feel differently about. Write to the person CONVINCING them to change that attitude or position. Use specific reasons and examples to make your argument convincing.**
- 4. Many people, both real and fictional, are honored by having their faces on postage stamps. Chose a person. Either real or fictional, whom you feel deserves this honor. CONVINCe the Postal Service to put your choice on a stamp.**
- 5. Everyone would like to be in charge of something. Select something you’d like to be in charge of. Explain what your hypothetical position of authority would be and CONVINCe the reader that you would be the best candidate for the position.**

**ENGLISH II, QUARTER 1  
IMAGINATIVE WRITING**

Write an imaginative piece of at least five paragraphs containing all the conventions of a short story like plot, conflict, theme, characterization . . . Check the “Understanding Literature” handout for definitions of these terms. Write a story to entertain and to affect the reader in some way. Be certain that enough descriptive details allows the reader to see what you are telling about and enjoys the tale.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Select one of the following prompts to base your story on:

1. You or someone else is standing in the middle of a stadium, concert hall, or auditorium. **WRITE AN IMAGINATIVE STORY** about how you or the character got there and what is happening.
  
2. You see the following: an elderly person sitting on a park bench, a young person laughing, and a dog or some other animal walking alone. **WRITE AN IMAGINATIVE STORY** about what happened to only one of the above characters.
  
3. Envision walking up to the crest of a mountain and looking over into a valley never visited by modern humans, **WRITE AN IMAGINATIVE STORY** about something happening in the undiscovered valley. Be careful to describe what is seen in this place.
  
4. The poet Donald Justice sets up a situation:  
    Excepting the diner           And up in  
    On the outskirts            One second-story room  
    The town of Ladora        A single light  
    At 3 a.m.                    As I drove past  
    Was Dark                    At seventy . . .  
    For my headlights . . .  
**WRITE AN IMAGINARY STORY**, which deals with the person who has the light on and what the person in the car is thinking as his/her car zips by.
  
5. **WRITE AN IMAGINATIVE STORY** using one of the following titles: “The Rusty Bike,” “The Crumpled Paper,” or “The Twelve Steps.”