

DO NOT LOSE THIS PACKET! BRING TO CLASS EACH DAY! NAME: _____ PER. _____

Writer's Workshop

"The pen is the tongue of the mind." ~ Miguel de Cervantes

Writing provides a mode of communication that allows us to freely express our ideas. One of our goals over the course of the next few weeks is to strengthen our writing using the writing process. We will accomplish this by focusing in on one key aspect of essay writing each day, giving you opportunities for immediate success! You will help personalize each daily activity by first setting your own goals. Throughout this workshop, we will fine tune essay organization and refine our writing style. These strategies can be applied to most forms of writing, but we will be targeting persuasive writing, as that is the primary 8th grade Writing Standard. **Mrs. S. will be your guide, but YOU will drive your success.** Remember that you will get out of this what you put into it. Feel free to take notes from any discussions we have right here on the packet. Here we go!

Key Writer's Workshop Objectives:

1. To improve your overall writing in your specific growth areas.
2. To become better self and peer editors.

These two objectives will help you become better evaluators and stronger overall writers! 😊

Tools You Will Need to be Successful

Each day, please make sure you have the following with you:

- A pen or pencil
- Highlighters/pastel colored markers/colored pencils
- Extra paper
- Packets/Worksheets Mrs. S. gives to you
- "Flowers for Algernon" rough draft
- DWA Rubric
- An enthusiastic and positive attitude and a willingness to push yourself to take your writing to the next level.

You will be assessed daily according to your participation, effort, completed packet worksheets, and overall growth. Your final product will be a fully revised essay.

Rough Schedule:

Day 1: Introduce Writer's Workshop and Set Workshop Goals
Days 2-4: Introductions (Thesis Statements, Overall Organization, Style)
Days 5-6: Body Paragraphs (Organization and Counter/Rebuttals)
Days 7: Conclusions (Effective Conclusions)
Day 8: Wrap-up: Score Revised Essays, Reflection

The Key: Use the below icons to help guide you through the writer's workshop tasks:



= READ



= WRITE AND RESPOND



= WORK WITH PEER



= STOP

Day 1

Opening Activities (Part I) Setting Workshop Goals

1. Introduce Writer's Workshop (led by Mrs. S.)

- Discuss purpose of Writer's Workshop
- Discuss overall objectives and assessments
- Briefly discuss logistics
- Discuss challenges of peer and self editing; come up with class strategies
- Set peer editing appointment clock
- Obtain student writing samples (authors will remain anonymous – a Word of the Day! 😊)