

Engl 1301 Fall 2010	Major Writing Assignment Prompt — Essay #1: Descriptive Narrative Essay (In-Class)
Objectives	<p>Objectives for the assignment include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate an understanding of various rhetorical and composition strategies for focus, organization, and development appropriate to subject, purpose, audience, and assignment. • Demonstrate the ability to write a formal academic essay — introduction, main body, and conclusion — with careful attention to the conventions that govern standard American English grammar and style. • Demonstrate the ability to write a unified <u>informative</u> essay that indicates clear and effective purpose (thesis or theme) and expands and supports that purpose with three or four distinct and coherent main point paragraphs which are systematically, thoroughly, and clearly developed. • Demonstrate the ability to work productively at the stages of the writing process, including planning, drafting, and revising, under the time constraints of an in-class writing situation.
Rhetorical Situation for Assignment	<p>Your purpose is to write an <u>informative essay</u> in the <u>narrative pattern of organization and development</u>. Focus the paper on a single event or occurrence in your life, and use, as detailed in Chapter 4 of The Longman Reader, "a single extended narrative to convey a central point and share with readers your view of what happened" (121). Identify and describe the scenario of the event (who? what? when? where? why? how?) as well as your theme for the essay in the introduction. Then divide the main body into three or four stages of the event as your main point paragraphs. Finally, be sure to have a rhetorical conclusion in which you restate your purpose or theme and main points.</p> <p>The audience is a general academic audience which includes your classmates and the instructor. Your voice is that of a undergraduate student in a college English course focusing on composition and rhetoric.</p> <p>You will do prewriting for the assignment outside of class, and draft and revise the assignment during a class period. You may bring a one-page topic outline (no complete sentences). We will go over outlining strategies more in class next period.</p>
Topics	<p>For Essay #1, please write a formal <u>descriptive narrative</u> essay on a specific <u>theme</u> related to one of the following topics based on <u>your personal experience</u>. For example, focus on a particular incident during which you encountered a conflict or challenge and learned a lesson.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A time when you had to make a split-second decision. An event associated with a confrontation with authority. A significant event in your personal life or from your family history. Your employment history, so far, from first to most recent job. Your education history, so far, from first to most recent level of schooling. The life story of one of your pets. <p><u>Source:</u> Adapted from Laurie G. Kirszner and Stephen R. Mandell. Writing First. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2003.</p>