

MULTI-GENRE WRITING PROJECT "RUBRIC"*

Connolly

For each section, check out the target you are aiming for. A paper put together with these qualities will likely score well, as long as it "holds together" and isn't riddled with distracting errors or incongruities.

Required Elements:

Title

- Appears on a title page. Original, illustrative, surprising, piques readers' interest.

Preface/Prologue/Dear Reader (not necessarily the first piece in the project)

p.

- Piques reader interest and provides pertinent information, sets reader up for reading what is ahead, something magical, provocative, or moving about it, maybe unconventional.

Unifying Element/Repetend/Motif/Thread/Etc.

- Connections between pieces are easily recognized, surprising, creative, moving.

Poetry in Contemporary Free Verse or Spoken Word Style

p.

- Contains sensory images, specific descriptive detail, attention to line length and possibly the space between lines, titled, precise word choice, syntax not choppy or fragmented, in most cases will read in perfectly grammatical, complete sentences.

"Argument" piece (proposal, position, or evaluation)

p.

- Emphasis on explanation/analysis/persuasion, not narrative or description (although they may be used to enhance the argument itself). Vivid, interesting information and point(s) made. Adds insight and depth to the multi-genre paper, is well-written with active verbs, specificity, and few wasted words. Sources are cited with flawless MLA style.

Photo Essay

p.

- A powerful or elegant photo or series of photos (original to the writer) is accompanied by moving and well-written prose to elicit a response from the reader. Connection to the overall theme or message of the multi-genre project is evident.

Flash Fiction/Non-fiction

p.

- A narrative (story), contains characters with motive, desire, tension. Auditory effects may be enhanced. Some mystery or surprise. Possibly an uncertain or uneasy ending, a sense of sweet ambiguity. Clear, effective, even moving payoff.

Final Piece (whatever it is/may overlap)

p.

- The last piece adds a resounding, final note to the multi-genre paper. Leaves the reader with a deep understanding or feeling that appeals both emotionally and intellectually. It might solve a mystery woven through the paper. It lifts the reader, it has resonance.

*Much of this assignment has been borrowed and adapted from ideas and suggestions in Tom Romano's *Fearless Writing*.

Works Cited

p.

- Complete (at least 4 sources), a range of research is represented (books, articles, book reviews, websites, primary sources, etc.), sources listed in a consistent MLA entry style.

Abstract Notes

p.

- Each piece that needs a relevant note has one. Writer uses this rhetorical space to inform readers about a dimension of the piece they couldn't otherwise know, such as an elaboration of a point, further research, or the process of creation. Within the text of the paper, a parenthetical alert of a raised number indicates that there is an endnote entry for the piece. There is a surprising, fulfilling quality to the notes. Sources referenced in endnotes are included in the works cited.

Writer Bio w/ photo

p.

- This bio includes a flattering photo that reflects the author's self and maybe interests. In a succinct paragraph or two, it shares info about the writer's background, hobbies, interest, family life, etc.

Other Aspects:

Additional Genres (w. page #) /Overall Aura

- An overview of the other pieces in the project finds them creative, interesting, well-written, and integral to the overall message. Flow between pieces is seamless and elements work together to create a cohesive written work.

“Visage” (visual elements)

- Appealing to the eyes: Spacing, type size, readability and appropriateness of font make readers speed along, concentrating on making meaning. Contains strong visual element(s) that accomplishes something words alone cannot. Does not “pad” for space in excessive ways to make writing appear to be lengthier than it actually is.

Copyedit

- Perfect. The only rules broken are purposeful and with reason.

Writing Quality (by holistic rubric guidelines)

- A level – exemplary upon “teacher-ready” draft – showing mature writing development, attention to detail, thoughtful discourse, and authentic/appropriate “voice.”

Mrs. C reserves the right to dock any paper/project a letter grade equivalent in points if it is significantly below the required minimum length through use of HUGE fonts or EXCESSIVE pictures.

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