

2023-24 DIGITAL SENIOR MEMORY BOOK (FALL SEMESTER)

OVERVIEW:

During this year (as a student in English 7A & 8A), you will complete a digital collection of works about YOU in a variety of genres collected into a sort of "book." It will consist of memories and thoughts from your life so far. It will be completed near the end of the year, however we'll be working on it off and on all year, and some pieces will appear in your portfolio each semester. Throughout the memory book writings, there are ample opportunities for reflective writing and self-discovery, but please note the final product will probably end up viewed by both your parents and others, so keep anything too personal to yourself.

7A REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION:

Parts I, II, and III will consist of personal narrative/exploratory "full-length," multi-paragraph compositions. Some will be included in your digital portfolio as course-required essays; however, ALL of your completed pieces will be included in your digital memory book at year end. * Most chapter descriptions include photos (pictures needed in final versions only).

During Fall Semester (7A) you will have options to choose any of these chapters when offered MB (memory book) as one of your writing options. I'd guess we'll write 2, maybe 3 of them this fall.

- In all chapters, be sure to explore the significance of events and importance of people and/or places in your life. The WHY IT MATTERS. As essay they should work to connect the particular to the universal.

POSSIBLE CHAPTERS: Ideas and suggestions – go ahead and change titles or even tweak topics as suits you. Also note the chapter descriptors/questions are NOT a prompt. You don't need to answer them. They are simply provided to help you start thinking. (You won't write EVERY chapter . . . unless you really want to.)

Part I – The Beginning – Chapter 1 Required (in the final "book")

Chapter 1: "Who I Am and Why I'm Me" (Who are you? Where do you live? What are your life goals? How would you describe yourself?) * Recent picture of yourself _____

Chapter 2: "Before I Was, There Were" (Your parents, siblings or other important people in your early life. You may wish to tell about your family before your arrival and the effect of your birth on the family) * Family photo or picture of your parent(s) _____

Chapter 3: "Suddenly, I Became Me" (Earliest memories: people, places, events. All those cute things you did when you were tiny) * Baby or toddler picture of yourself _____

Chapter 4: "School Bells" (Your years in grade school. Learning reading and math, special teachers, grade school friends, events, lessons learned, etc.) * Picture of yourself during grade school _____

Part II – In Transition

Chapter 5: "I Grew Up Here" (Describe your house, neighborhood, and/or town as you remember them) *

Photo of your home(s) _____

Chapter 6: "My First Crush" (That first boyfriend/girlfriend in elementary school, or the celebrity you KNEW you were going to marry someday) * Picture of this person _____

Chapter 7: "I Wish I Could See _____ Again" or "I Hope I Never Lose Touch With _____"

(Tell about one of your best childhood friends whether they are no longer part of your life or remain your friend now) * Picture of that friend _____

Chapter 8: "Junior High" (Getting accustomed to "big kid" school: Compare this new school experience to your years in grade school beforehand and your years in high school to follow. You may want to mention teachers, friends, activities, successes, heartbreaks, etc. as examples) * Picture of yourself during junior high _____

Part III – And Then I Grew Up: My High School Years

Chapter 9: "My Favorite Holiday/Birthday" (A particular holiday or birthday with a special celebration worth remembering) * Picture from that event or related to it _____

Chapter 10: "Most Memorable Underclassman Moment" (The moment, event, or achievement of your first three years that stands out foremost in your mind) * Picture of yourself as underclassman _____

Chapter 11: "Let's Go to the Movies/Rockin' Out" (Your favorite movie or movie experience of your high school years. OR – Your favorite concert or concert experience. Why was it so good?) * Movie poster or picture/ Concert photo or pic of the musician(s) _____

Chapter 12: "I'm Really in Love This Time" (Your first serious romance or your dreams of a perfect romance. Explain what love is or what you think it should be.) * Picture of that boyfriend/girlfriend or of a celebrity fantasy date _____

Chapter 13: "The Place to Be" (Your favorite place. What is it like? Why do you like it?) * Picture of the place

Chapter 14: "A Shining Example" (The most influential person in your life, your role model. Be sure to include the cause/effect relationship of how he or she has affected your life.) * Picture of that person

Chapter 15: "At Last I'm a Senior" (Highlights from your senior year so far, successes, lessons learned, etc. How has this year been different?) * A recent picture of yourself – different from the one for Chapt. 1

Chapter 16: "The Course that Made the Difference" (The high school course that you are MOST glad to have taken. Give reasons and examples of why it was outstanding.) * Picture from the class or of the teacher

Chapter 17: "My Favorite Mistake" (The high school blunder that you are MOST glad to have made. What was initially a mistake that worked out, or ultimately a mistake that taught you something valuable.) * Picture somehow related to your "mistake"

EVALUATION:

Like most papers in English 7A, we'll bring these chapters to WRITE CLUB for read-throughs, feedback, and sharing. *Papers should be a page-and-a-half to two pages in length (as long as they need to be), MLA formatted, resist formula, and have an original title that fits the piece exclusively. As always, you'll have the opportunity for revision. And later, the ability to choose which papers get teacher feedback. You've got a story, let's write it!

*Not actually part of evaluation, just general parameters for your work to keep it meeting expectations.