Writing Enrichment

Memoir Research Project

Over the next few weeks, we will embark upon a lengthy research project. In that time, we will work our way through a series of steps to help you effectively complete and present your research.

Step 1: Memoir

Each member of the class will choose and read a full-length memoir. The library has set aside for us a selection of memoirs that will be appropriate for this assignment. We will have time in class to read, as well as to complete short writing assignments that reflect upon your reading.

Step 2: Gathering Information

Based upon the content of your memoir, you will choose a relevant research topic.

* Research topics should be factual subjects that will help to develop your understanding of the content of your memoir.
  + For example, you might choose to research the historical background of your memoir, the location in which it is set, or a particular obstacle the author faced, such as an illness.
* Once you have chosen your topic, you will use the school databases and other scholarly resources to gather information about your topic. Your research notes will be compiled into a research outline or ibook that will clearly and thoughtfully present what you have learned about your topic.

Step 3: Research Essay

Once you have completed gathering information, you will work through the following steps of your research essay. For each step, we will take time to discuss how to successfully complete that portion of the assignment.

* Outline
* Rough Draft
* Final Draft
* Works Cited page