**Short Story Assignment**

For this assignment, students are asked to write their own short story. Students will complete a series of writing activities, followed by a rough draft of their story. This draft will be workshopped in class on December 16. Students will be given feedback on their draft that they will then apply as they work towards perfecting their final assignment. The final story and an analysis of it (details to follow) will be due January 11. As students work on their final draft, I have included a checklist that they should make sure they review before submitting their final draft.

**Timeline**

**December 8** Character Description: You will create a description of your main character.

The most vivid characters are those that the author knows intimately.

Although you may be writing about your character at a certain moment of

his/her life, you should know everything about your character – from birth

to death.

**December 10** Setting Paragraph: You will write a 5-6 sentence paragraph establishing a

distinct setting. Setting must include time and place and, often, includes

circumstance. You will be using the location that you used for your multifactor map geography assignment and this place will influence the plot. Mood is closely connected as it represents

the emotions evoked by the writer in the reader. The most effective

settings evoke all 6 senses:

a. Aural – Hearing

b. Olfactory – Smelling

c. Tactile – Touching

d. Gustatory – Tasting

e. Visual – Seeing

f. Kinesthetic – Moving

**December 14** Story Outline: You will create a skeleton outline of your

story. You must include setting / characters / plot outline (including conflict, rising action, falling action and resolution).

**December 16** Rough Draft: You will be responsible for bringing in your rough draft to

class to participate in small group workshops.

**January 11 Short Story Due (uploaded to turnitin.com)**

For this final draft, include a short paragraph detailing how the process of breaking up the assignment into smaller pieces and submitting it for peer feedback helped you create a more effective product.

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**Checklist for final Draft**

Here is a checklist of formatting requirements and story content requirements. Make sure that every box is checked before submitting your final assignment.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Times New Roman / 12 point font / Double Spaced |
|  | Minimum 700 words / Maximum 1000 words |
|  | 1 main character and at least 1 secondary character |
|  | Must include dialogue |
|  | Consistent point of view |
|  | Setting (same one used for your multifactor map geography assignment) |
|  | *Avoids* clichés |
|  | Story builds on previous draft(s) - include drafts and highlight what inspired this version |

Assignment Rubric

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Level 1 (D)  1- (50-52)  1 (53-56)  1+(57-59) | Level 2 (C)  2- (60-62)  2 (63-66)  2+ (67-69) | Level 3 (B)  3– (70-72)  3 (73-76)  3+ (77-79) | Level 4 (A)  4 – (80 to 86)  4 (87 to 94)  4+(95 to 100) |
| **Knowledge and Understanding**    *Knowledge and understanding of form and content.* | Limited knowledge and understanding of form and content. | Some knowledge and understanding of form and content. | Considerable knowledge and understanding of form and content. | Thorough knowledge and understanding of form and content. |
| **Thinking**    *Independence and creativity of thought.* | Limited independent and creative thought. | Some independent and creative thought. | Considerable independent and creative thought. | A high degree of independent and creative thought. |
| **Communication**    *Clarity of expression.*        *Organization.* | Limited clarity and accuracy of expression.    Limited organization. | Somewhat clear and accurate expression.    Somewhat logical organization. | Clear, accurate expression.      Logical organization. | Clear, accurate, concise expression.    Logical, persuasive organization. |
| **Application**    *Application of genre’s conventions.*        *Use of literary devices.* | Limited application of genre’s conventions.      Limited use of literary devices. | Some application of genre’s conventions.      Some use of literary devices. | Successful application of genre’s conventions.      Accurate use of literary devices. | Highly successful application of genre’s conventions.    Accurate and precise use of literary devices. |