Self-selected Biography

Weekly Calendar

Week Three  Introduction to the biography assignment; selecting a biography.

Week Four  Getting the biography

Week Five  Previewing, developing a reading plan, your vocabulary journal.
Using a Pronunciation Dictionary
CONNECT LAB: Writing in Response to Reading

Week Six  Read the first 25+ pages; take notes.

Week Seven  Read 25+ pages; compose/discuss Critical Response #1 in class.

Week Eight  Read the third 25+ pages; take notes.

Week Nine  Read 25+ pages; compose/discuss Critical Response #2 in class.

Week Ten  Read 25+ pages; take notes.

Week Eleven  Read 25+ pages; compose/discuss Critical Response #3 in class.

Week Twelve  Read 25+ pages; take notes.
Begin the LAB assignment “Evaluating, Synthesizing, and Documenting Sources.”

Week Thirteen  Read 25+ pages; compose/discuss Critical Response #4 in class.

Week Fourteen  Compose/discuss Critical Response #5 in class.
Draft, revise, and edit an in-class essay over the biography.

Week Fifteen  Draft, revise, and edit an in-class essay over the biography.

Week Sixteen  Submit your vocabulary journal in your portfolio.
Unit on a Biography of a Successful Person
INRW -- Spring, 2017
Librarian: Jordan Forbes
Instructor: Anne Fletcher

On Wednesday, February 1 -- We will meet with the campus librarian, Ms. Jordan Forbes, at 12:20 in the Learning Lab classroom at the back of the Learning Lab on the second floor.

After the presentation and Ms. Forbes presentation of the web guide she is preparing for our class, I hope you will be able to select a biography of a person who made a positive difference in the world. This selection could be at the library, bookstore, or online (200 pages minimum). There is a limit on the number of days allowed for campus library books, so this might not be the best choice.

Choice:
Choose an individual who has made a contribution to an area of particular interest to you, perhaps your proposed college major or career path. You may wish to consider presidents, first ladies, sports, music, history, science, technology, medicine, art, or criminal justice. Before making your final selection, sample the author’s style by skimming three pages at random. Preview the title, book jacket blurb (if there is one,) introduction, chapter titles, and visuals, and begin reading the first chapter or two. Bring the biography to class daily.

Reading Plan:
Determine how many pages are in your biography and then divide that by the number of weeks you have until you need to be finished reading by Week Thirteen. That will determine the number of pages you will need to read each day or week. For example, for a 200 page biography which should be about the size of your selected biography, you would need to read 25 pages a week for 8 weeks beginning with week 6 and ending with week 13. Each week’s reading should be completed before the Wednesday class of that week so that you will be able to share with your peers.

Vocabulary Journal:
Keep a running list of vocabulary words that are unfamiliar or new to you in your biography. Look up the meaning of each word, how to pronounce it, and record the meaning. Use the new word in a sentence that shows your understanding of the word similar to how it is used in your text. You may do this in a Google Doc.

Critical Responses:
For each critical response question, compose a single paragraph as a response. To get started answering, turn each question into a statement to serve as your topic sentence. Answer all parts of the response.
Critical Response #1: What information about your selected subject led you to want to learn more about his or her life? How did you get interested in this person? What is the relationship of the author to the subject?

Critical Response #2: Try to find two traits or characteristics that appeared in the early life of your subject that indicated he or she would be successful later in life? At some point in the person’s life, these traits must have shown that the person would become successful.

Critical Response #3: Share how and where and when the first trait began in the subject’s life and trace it through the journey to success. **Incorporate a connection to an article on success.**

Critical Response #4: Share how and where and when the second trait that led to success began and trace it through the journey to success.

Critical Response #5: How can you improve in your life or work towards being successful based on what you have learned from the study of this person?