

SHORT MEMOIR REFLECTION CHECKLIST

See the NFSB evaluation breakdown for the descriptors of work from 1-5, F-A, or 0-100%

The purpose of writing a reflection to your work is to take a step back and to think about everything that went into the creation of the final product – think of it as the behind the scenes interviews and other special features on the DVD version of films you rent/watch. These reflections are an opportunity to show everything that you know, decisions you made, and the effort you put in that are not necessarily evident in the final product. Think of it as giving me the reading glasses with which to read and evaluate your work.

Thus, the more detail, depth and insight into yourself and your creative process that you are able to show, the better. Reflecting is an integral part of learning – if we don't look back at what we know, how we did, and how we can improve, then we never get better. This kind of self-evaluation counts as a part of the TALK competency. It is not a formalized piece of writing, like an essay, instead answer the questions below and imagine yourself having a conversation with me, or an interview with the press after your short memoir has been published and won a prestigious award! Try to make it all flow and make sense.

Total # of points lost due to lates, _____% will be deducted from this competency.

TALK Competency Criteria (total _____%)

CONTEXT

- Is this a reflection? Have you written a detailed, evaluative look back at the process of creation and final quality of your memoir?
- Word limit: minimum 800 words (2 full pages typed, 1.5 line spacing), max. 4 pgs typed.
____ -1% for each MLA formatting and citation infraction

Paragraphs:

1. Content, story and structure

- What is your main idea? Why did you choose this topic from your life? What is the lesson/realization you are sharing in this memoir? Why is this important to you?
- Describe your memoir, loosely? Describe the writing style, people, conflict etc. without summarizing
- What were you trying to do, convey, experiment with, and why?
- Describe how you used the model memoir you read as inspiration for how to craft your memoir? Ie actually discuss the book.
- Discuss specifically and in detail 2 in-class exercises (Sauve's) which helped you flesh out and develop the content of your memoir and how.

2. Craft & Revision

- Discuss and analyze at **least 3 specific literary techniques** you used, what you were trying to do with these, and why you think they are effective or not in the crafting of your memoir. Cite / quote yourself and refer to the page number in your own memoir.
- Discuss at least **2 specific comments from peer review** / feedback and how you used them to revise your work.
- Discuss at least 1 instance of your own feedback – notes to yourself - that you realized upon re-reading your work - and how you addressed this in your revisions.
- Discuss how you feel about your final product? What would you do differently if you had a chance, if anything? Why? Why not?

3. Process

- Which technique(s) did you find interesting to try and why? What surprised you when experimenting with these technique(s)?
- Describe in detail the exercise you designed, pg # in the memoir you read, name of the technique, how you feel it adds impact to your finished product, and what page to find this in your own short memoir.
- Describe the difference in the experience of writing a fictional short story (term 1) and a true memoir? – ie problems with writing the truth responsibly versus inventing a fiction.