Senior Memory Book Information

During this year in Expository Writing/ Advanced Composition, you will complete a major writing assignment – one that you will hopefully keep for the rest of your life. This personal piece will be your Senior Memory Book. This book will contain thoughts and memories of your life. This is meant to be a keepsake for you and your family, so it should be completed with great pride and care.

**Option #1: The standard Senior Memory Book**

This written assignment will be presented in a loose-leaf, snap-ring binder. The size of the binder will depend upon how much you put into the memory book. The front of your binder must include your name and a title for your Senior Memory Book. The text of the memory book must be typed – standard margins, double spaced, size 12 font.

Your Senior Memory Book will include a Table of Contents, and Introduction, 10 chapters, and an Epilogue. Your chapter essays and Introduction must be at least one typed, double-spaced page each. Accompanying each chapter essay will be what are called “paper trails.” Essentially, these are tangible memories such as pictures, certificates, medals, movie tickets, etc. All paper trail items must include a caption.

Evaluation:

The finished product will be worth 250 total points and will be due on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The late penalties will be consistent with the rules of this classroom. Grading is based on completeness, mechanics, creativity, and overall presentation. An excellent (A quality) memory book will be neatly prepared, contain all 10 chapters, and have at least 5 paper trail items accompanying each chapter (all five paper trails should not be just pictures). Obviously, the more thorough and creative you are in decorating and personalizing your book, pages, and sections, the higher the grade will be. Any book that is sloppy or a bunch of random “junk” will not meet the minimum requirements and will earn a D or F. Procrastinating would inevitably take the fun and excitement out of your memory book. Be organized and disciplined so you can enjoy the process as well as the remaining weeks as a student at Castle High School.

**Detailed Description of the Senior Memory Book Components**

Table of Contents

This must account for EVERY page in the book. This includes the essay pages as well as

all pages with paper trails on them.

Introduction

This page should be completed last in the process. This should serve as a reflection of

what you honestly thought about the process of putting together your memory book.

What did you learn from the process? What will the reader learn about you from this

book? Be honest with yourself and the reader here!

Chapter 1 : “Who am I?”

Who are you? What makes you who you are as an individual? What defines your family?

What goals do you have in life? Where do you picture yourself in five years?

Chapter 2: “We are Family”

Your family has a major influence over who you are as a person. Feel free to list your

family members or just simply take some time to talk about those who have really made

an impact on your life. What traditions do you have? Where do you go on holidays?

Chapter 3: “Baby, baby, baby…”

Although we don’t usually remember our toddler days, they are the times where we begin

to develop our personality. You may need help from family members here to fill in the

blanks of this time in your life. What funny things did you do as a baby? What frustrated

your parents?

Chapter 4: “School Bells”

This chapter is dedicated to the K-5 years of school. Usually full of finger painting and

recess, these years area also known for the foundation of your education. Who were your

favorite teachers? Who were you best friends? What was your favorite subject? What did

you want to do when you grew up?

Chapter 5: “The Wonder Years”

To many, the middle school years are filled with awkwardness and immaturity. For this

chapter, you will discuss how you handled those volatile years in your life. Did you

come out unscathed, or did you compromise who you were for superficial things?

Chapter 6: “Just Chillin”

Along with awkwardness and immaturity, another aspect of middle school/early high

school years is that you rely on your family for transportation to everything. How did

you spend those pre-driving years? Where did you go? How did you pass the time?

Who took you to these places?

Chapter 7: “Friends/ Soulmates Forever”

Who is your best friend right now? Have you had any romances that have failed or

succeeded? Now is the time to dedicate a few pages to him/her/them.

Chapter 8: “Road Trippin’”

For this chapter, give a detailed account of the most memorable trips you’ve taken. Who

went with you? How did you get there? What was so great about this trip?

Chapter 9: “High School: The Early Years”

Freshman through junior years may seem like a blur to you now, but they have helped

shape your attitude about Castle High School in some way. What memories do you

have? Who is your favorite teacher? What classes really impacted you?

Chapter 10: “Finally Seniors”

What highlights do you remember from this past year? Who was your favorite teacher

this year? What class really made an impression on you? What will you always

remember about this year? What legacy will your class leave Castle High School?

Epilogue: “My Letter to My Parents/Guardians”

This is your chance to speak directly to that person/those people who have helped shape who you

are. Regardless of whether or not you have a good relationship with this person/these people,

here is your chance to get something off of your chest.

**Option #2: Create a Web Site All About You**

As technology has progressed, we felt it necessary to add a step to this project to hopefully try to keep up. If you choose to do this assignment, you will have the same requirements as the standard book, but you will present it as a web page instead of a book. This process will save on paper and manual organization, but it will require the student to be comfortable with technology.

Presentation:

Using weebly.com (or any other site you choose to use), you will create your own web page including a web address/domain. This page will still contain the same information; each of the ten chapters will now have its own page on your website. **You may decorate this website however you please; however, the ease of navigation on this site will be critical**.

Contents:

See above for the chapter topics. Each page will still require a full page essay along with the paper trails.

Evaluation:

On the due date, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, your website must be finished and published for all to see. You will turn in the bottom of this sheet which tells me the name of your web address and when it was last updated. Your page will be worth 250 points, and it will be graded along the same lines as the standard book.

If completing Option #2, cut at this dotted line and turn in on due date.

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Option #2 Information Sheet

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Web address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date last updated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title of your website: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_