

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Personal Essay

Read each of the sample essays in the packet. Answer the following questions for **each** essay:

1. What does the author use for an introduction?
2. How does the author draw from personal experience?
3. What is the opinion / main idea of the essay?

Choose a topic for your own personal essay. Some examples are below, but you can choose anything that is appropriate for school. Look at your Topics for Writing for additional help.

Some topics: Truth Envy Gossip Dating Bravery
 Fashion Happiness Sadsness Parents Beauty
 Youth Nature Writing History Lying
 Sports Solitude Conscience Loss Popularity

Fill out the prewriting sheet for this assignment.

Group your ideas on a separate sheet.

Write a first draft and then type it. It should be at least **1 page typed**.

Revise the draft. Check for:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| _____ A title: "On..." | _____ Transition words |
| _____ An attention-grabbing introduction | _____ A quotation |
| _____ A true story | _____ Strong verbs (change at least 3) |
| _____ Sentence variation | _____ A strong conclusion |

Complete an Editing/Revising checksheet and print out a final copy. Hand in everything.

	Preliminary Grade	Revised Grade
Structure (organization, paragraphs, length, font) 20 pts.	_____	_____
Process (questions, prewrite, groups, rough, E/R) 20 pts.	_____	_____
Description (title, intro, concl., examples, banned, verbs, transition wds., sent. variation) 20 pts.	_____	_____
Spelling 20 pts.	_____	_____
Grammar (punctuation, caps, sentences, quotation marks, _____) 20 pts.	_____	_____
TOTAL		_____