

Grades 11-12

Biographical/Autobiographical Compositions

Philosophical Roots

BIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY: an older family member

Writing Directions: Write an essay about an older family member who has helped you to understand your ethnic or philosophical roots. Explain how that person made you think about life and your own identity. Imagine that the reader of your essay has never met this person. Describe the person and his or her influence on you so that your reader will understand what the person is like and how he or she influenced you.

STATE STANDARD: Writing Applications, 2.1

Write biographical or autobiographical narratives or short stories:

- a. Relate a sequence of events and communicate the significance of the events to the audience.
- b. Locate scenes and incidents in specific places,
- c. Describe with concrete sensory details the sights, sound, and smells of a scene and the specific actions, movements, gestures, and feelings of the characters; use interior monologue to depict the characters' feelings.
- d. Pace the presentation of actions to accommodate changes in time and mood.
- e. Make effective use of descriptions of appearance, images, shifting perspectives, and sensory details.

DISTRICT STANDARD: Goal 5,10.3

Produce an essay from a prompt in which precise language, sentence variety, action verbs, appropriate modifiers, and active rather than passive voice is used.

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