

### SENIOR MEMORY BOOK

During this term you will write a book, a Senior Memory Book. We will peer edit, so remember that this essay will be shared with someone in class. Due date will be final exam day, but you must begin now and work on it for the remainder of this term in order to complete it on time without rushing. This project will be your final exam and thus will be 20% of your semester grade. A specific grade sheet will be given prior to turning in the completed project.

The final product will include 8 chapters (clean copies) and will be presented in a binder, with each essay separated by dividers. Your binder may have appropriate drawings or pictures pasted on the outside cover, inside cover, or dividers (but not on actual essays) if you wish for bonus points. Each chapter should be a minimum of two typed pages and a maximum of three pages (except Heaven—see notation on that chapter). Each chapter should reflect the rules and guidelines of good writing—including crutch verb limits (please highlight these), no *this* without a noun, no contractions, no *you*, figure your ASL, abide by the length and formatting, etc. The only exception is that you may, of course, use *I* since this book is yours.

At any time throughout the semester I can request to see your binder to check your progress. In addition I will set days that require you to submit your work for completion grades. On peer edit/lab days, use the time wisely to work on this task. I will be available to answer specific questions on those days, or you may conference with me before school, after school, or during SRB.

#### Schedule:

\_\_\_\_\_you must have completed any two chapters (5 pts each—this will be a quarter grade).

\_\_\_\_\_you must submit your binder with four chapters  
(the chapters that were not collected previously will be worth 5 pts each—completion grade on that quarter).

\_\_\_\_\_you must have completed an additional two chapters (5 pts each on quarter grade).

\_\_\_\_\_you will submit the final product with all 8 chapters, a table of contents, and the grade sheet in the binder with dividers and any decorative touches; your decorations, pictures, graphics, illustrations must be school appropriate, meaningful and relevant to the assignment, and should only appear on the binder or table of contents not on the actual essays. You may use the dividers between chapters for additional decoration if you wish. This final project will be your final exam.

#### Submitting work—

Each time you submit essays, you will need to include two copies. You will also need two copies of your final product although only one needs to be in the binder.

Head each work in the following way:

In the header section-- Last name, Chapter Number, title on instruction sheet.

Center—Creative title

SPACE

Begin writing

**Final Exam Grade**—a specific grade sheet will be given closer to the due date, but here is an overview:

Deductions from total score--

-5 pts. for each missing chapter

If you do not complete all chapters and a missing one is chosen to be graded, you will lose 55 pts.

-5 pts for missing table of contents

Include chapter number and creative title for each.

-5 pts for missing grade sheet

-3 pts for each short essay; if, however, the short essay is the chosen one to grade, the highest grade possible is 34/50

-1 pts for each header missing or title missing

-5 pts grade for no second copy

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-1 pt for each missing divider

Bonus--

Up to 5 BONUS points for graphics, pictures, or other appropriate decorations

Essay #1 (Your choice for me to grade)= 50 pts.

Failure to obey the guidelines of good writing will result in a highest possible grade of 34/50

Essay #2 (My choice for me to grade)= 50 pts.

Failure to obey the guidelines of good writing will result in a highest possible grade of 34/50

The final exam will be due at the end of class on your final exam day and will not be accepted late. You may not use late pass on the entire final exam, but you may use it for an extension on ONE of the chapters. Please remember to submit clean copies of essays.

**Your Senior Memory Book must include the following chapters:**

**Chapter 1: "Soundtrack of Your MHS Life"** –Imagine that a movie is being made of your four years in high school. Include the artist, title, and lyrics for four songs that would be part of the soundtrack. For each of three songs, give a 2-3 sentence blurb explaining the significance of that song for your movie. Put all your blurbs on one page with no more than five crutch verbs on that page and place these first. Then pick ONE song and explain in two pages why it was chosen and what would be happening on the screen while this song played. Include a copy of the lyrics for each song; put those after your essay.

**Chapter 2: "Walk by Faith"**—Part of what makes MHS special is its focus on faith. In an intelligent, argumentative style essay, assess MHS's claim to walk by faith. Is this statement true of our community? Do NOT use this essay as a bashing opportunity for you to vent personal biases, disappointments, or frustrations. Give specific examples of support but do not use names in a negative fashion.

**Chapter 3: "Heaven"** --Based on the novel Five People You Meet in Heaven, write a dialogue between you and someone who has influenced or impacted your life. Keep in mind the importance of setting, how the person influenced or impacted you, and what lesson he or she teaches you while in Heaven (as shown in the novel). You do not have to die to write this chapter. Because this chapter is primarily dialogue, it must be 3-4 pages in length.

**Chapter 4: "Flashback"** –If you could relive one day or experience in your life, what would it be? You may want to relive it or go back to change it. Identify the day/experience, tell why it was so important to you, and explain what reliving it would accomplish.

**Chapters 5, 6, 7: CHOICES** –You choose these three chapters, using topics below.

**Chapter 8: "If I could redo high school all over again, I would . . ."**

**You must CHOOSE three of the following chapters to include as Chapters 5, 6, and 7:**

- 1. Losses:** Write about something—concrete or abstract—that you have lost and how you lost it.
- 2. Standing up:** Describe a time when you stood up against the crowd for something you believed in. Was it worth it?
- 3. Perfect Present:** Imagine I could give you the perfect present; the thing you have always wanted/needed. There is, however, one catch . . .it must be intangible, abstract (like patience or hope). Tell me what the gift is, why it is perfect for you, and how it will affect your life.
- 4. Inanimate Object:** Pick an inanimate object and write an essay comparing you to it. Thus you will want to pick one that reflects who you really are.
- 5. Ten Year Reunion:** Imagine walking in to your ten-year reunion. Describe the scene and your classmates a decade later, but focus your paper on who you are. Consider: what do people see/think/remember about you? Where are you at this point in your life?

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**6. Quote:** Find a quote (something not used elsewhere in SMB) from a song, a piece of literature, a film, a common expression, the Bible, etc. and explain how this quote inspires you and applies to your life. Consider it your mantra. Explain what it means and apply it.