**Unit One Plan**

**FE**: Forty Model Essays **PSM**: Pocket Style Manual **T**: Transitions

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| DATE | TOPIC | READING ASSIGNMENT | OTHER ASSIGNMENT |
| W 1/25 | Introduction |  |  |
| F 1/27 | Topic Selection | **FE**: Orwell, “Shooting an Elephant” pg. 82 |  |
| M 1/30 | Topic Selection | **T**: Gosnell, “The Crying Stone” | Response paper 1 |
| W 2/1 | Choosing Important Events | **FE**: Hughes, “Salvation” pg. 66 |  |
| F 2/3 | Outlining |  | Response paper 2 |
| M 2/6 | Finding your before & after | **FE**: Staples, “Black Men in Public Space” pg. 115  **T**: Virga, “The Duchess of Bones” | *Group 1 presentation* |
| W 2/8 | **No class—conferences** |  |  |
| F 2/10 | Pacing | **FE**: Dillard, “The Chase” pg. 71 | Response paper 3 |
| M 2/13 | Workshopping |  | 1. Response paper 4  2. Bring in 2 copies of your  Personal Essay (at least 3  pages) |
| W 2/15 | Creating Images | **FE**: Cofer, “Silent Dancing” pg. 40 | Peer Letter (bring 2 copies)  *Group 2 presentation* |
| F 2/17 | Workshopping |  | 1. Response paper 5  2. in 1 copy of you Personal  Essay (at least 4 pages) |
| M 2/20 | Rhetorical Devices | **T**: Clark, “Perfectly Level” | *Group 3 presentation* |
| W 2/22 | Dialogue | **FE**: Angelou, “Champion of the World” pg. 77 | *Group 4 presentation* |
| F 2/24 | Revising |  | 1. Response paper 6  2. Bring one paragraph from your current draft. |
| M 2/27 | Workshopping |  | 1. Response paper 7  2. Bring in 1 copy of you Personal Essay (complete draft) |
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**Response Papers**

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| RP # | Assignment |
| 1 | Write short descriptions of 1-2 events that you are considering for the Personal Essay. Answer the following questions:  1. When did the event occur?  2. What happened during the event?  3. How do you believe the event changed you? |
| 2 | Think about the event that you have chosen for the Personal essay. Outline the major events of the story. Do the following:  1. Write a brief phrase to describe each important aspect, beginning with an active verb (eg. ***Walked*** into the bar; ***ordered*** a drink; ***slapped***a bartender, etc)  2. Define why that event is essential to the plot. |
| 3 | Draft your before & after (1 paragraph each). These paragraphs should be just as concrete as the bulk of the story. |
| 4 | Think about the events that you have chosen for your essay.  1. Which events are the most important? Choose one of these specific events (from your outline) and expand it to approximately half a page.  2. Which events are the least important. Choose one of these specific events (from your outline) and cut it down to 3-4 sentences. |
| PL | Answer the following questions about your peer’s essay (please number your  responses):  **1**. What is the author trying to say about this experience? How can you tell?  **2**. Do you think that’s really the theme of this piece, or is there another possibility?  Explain.  **3**. Can you see who the author was before and after the experience? Explain.  **4**. What part of the piece needs most work (both in meeting paper demands and in  quality)? Why?  **5**. What part/aspect is the strongest (both in meeting paper demands and in  quality)? Why?  **6**. What should be the author’s biggest priority? |
| 5 | Think about the setting of your essay. Write a detailed description of it. Include imagery from all 5 senses. |
| 6 | Look for a place in your essay where you may be able to include dialogue. Draft one page of dialogue that would fit into this section. |
| 7 | Look for the longest paragraph in your essay.  1. Copy and paste the paragraph into your homework document.  2. Revise the paragraph, cutting out all unnecessary sentences and words. The second version should be no more than half the length of the original. |