

Ashland English 100 Essay #2

A Turning Point in Your Life

Begin by reading

- “Graffiti punished by reading” (Available through Blackboard)
- “Journey to Texas” (Available through Blackboard)

Your Writing Task

Write a narrative of a turning point in your personal life, focusing on one particular event that made you a better person.

Skills you should learn in this assignment:

Human beings are natural story-tellers, and if I simply tell a class to “write something about X,” 99% will write some sort of story. Those stories, however, are often rambling, confusing, and dull. The skills I want you to work on for this assignment are vividness and focus—making the event come alive with particular details and leaving out the details that are only distracting.

Mechanical Details

Length: Minimum 600 words not counting title, your name, etc. That’s about a two-page paper. There is no maximum, but try to keep it under 900. Papers significantly under the minimum (90% or less) will not receive the best possible grade.

Format: Standard MLA format. (12-point Times Roman type, double-spaced, 1” margin all around, MLA header.)

Submitting the paper:

- This paper (and all the following papers in this course) will be submitted electronically through Blackboard. Instructions are available on the Blackboard website for this course.

Due Date

- **Final copy:** Wednesday, September 18, 2019

This essay is worth 50 points.