

CREATIVE WRITING

Instructor Mrs. Nayback

Prep period

Available before and after school

hnyback@mps-up.com email and www.mps-up.com web links

Objectives:

Before the conclusion of the course, the student will:

- Improve writing vocabulary, variety, length, and description
- Improve overall communication
- Improve basic writing skills in preparation for the writing MEAP
- Improve development of character, conflict, dialogue, etc.
- Learn and use writing tactics to maintain interest
- Experiment with writing in various formats: fables, short stories, descriptive paragraphs, dialogues, narratives, blends in genre, etc.
- Read various types of creative writing samples as written by student or published authors
- Write from different points of view
- Experiment with tone, mood, conflict, voice, themes, and symbolism

Organization:

The course is designed to be individually-based, as not all students will be writing the same materials.

The beginning focus will be mainly on writing using different language, descriptions, adding dialogue and using other types of attention devices. Students will be expected to write around 1 page per day in expressive writings for practice. Mechanics, usage, and grammar will be reviewed in isolation as individual students need and overall problem areas with the whole class through a proofreading series. Students will be expected to write 3-5 major papers and revise these in groups. Works will be expected to attempt a publication stage for "A" credit.

The ending segment will focus mainly on improving skills in writing as listed in objectives above. Students will write a children's story for an elementary student, fables, short stories, dialogues, and other papers. Students will be expected to attempt publication of their best work to receive "A" credit. Students will write lengthier materials and develop their literature further under various genres.

Coursework:

There will be no one text for this class. Students will read published works for samples to model from and will interact with writers within and outside of class. Students are also encouraged to imitate an author/writer of a certain genre.

Class Rules:

- *Respect the rights of other students to learn
- *Respect the authority of the instructor or other school official
- *Respect myself and act according to maturity and common sense
- *Use class time wisely and for this class work
- *Treat the school facilities and school items with common sense and good judgement
- *Discuss only information appropriate for school and use appropriate language

Grading:

Grading will emphasize improvement in all areas listed above, in addition to other assignments. Students will be graded individually, but will participate in some group work. Students may also have the opportunity to redo certain assignments (within limits) to demonstrate improvement and/or publication readiness.

Note that a student may NOT receive an "A" unless he/she attempts publication in some manner of work as written and developed in class. Avenues for publication will be provided in class

Late Policy

Work that is one day late (excused) will receive half credit. Unexcused absences or work submitted more than one day late will be given NO credit. Almost all work can be done in class! Students will be allowed make up work as per school policy. Reminder: school excused absences for sports/extra-curricular activities are NOT provided additional time. Students will set individual writing goals and be graded according to whether the goals were met or worked toward.

Students will be graded on the following scale

A 100%-93%	C 73-76%
A- 92%-90%	C- 70-72%
B+ 87-89%	D+ 67-69%
B 83-86%	D 63-66%
B- 80-82%	D- 60-62%
C+ 77-79%	E 59% or lower

Students who copy or allow others to copy work or otherwise attempt to cheat will be given an automatic zero on the assignment along with losing points off participation.

Also, Participation (see next page) consists of 25% of a student's grade.

_____ Student Name

_____ Class

_____ Date Due

Participation Evaluation form

	Always	Sometimes	Occasionally	Once or Twice	Never
I strive to do what my teacher requests in class and make up work promptly when absent					
I keep track of my grade in class.					
I volunteer and try to answer questions in class					
I have good classroom conduct and use time wisely					
I always bring needed class materials					
I am cooperative with group members and the instructor					
I am hardworking					
I make extra effort in assignments I will also strive to have a positive attitude and do my best instead of complaining					
I respect the feelings and possessions of others					

Feel free to explain in or all categories on this form (front or rear). Instructor will make final decision.

/45

_____percentage

_____actual points
varies per marking period

Sign and return this page:

I agree to do the best I can in class without distracting others to improve my writing abilities. I will strive toward publication and attempt to create my own unique style of writing. I will cooperate with the instructor to the best of my ability and follow all classroom rules...or otherwise face consequences of my actions.

I am expected to participated verbally in small groups or in larger class discussion when evaluating a work and cooperating in a respectful manner in class. Should I choose to disturb other classmates or instructor I could penalized as a result.

I also realize that cheating points cannot be made up. Copying materials from the Internet, from other students or other locations is considered cheating.

_____ Student Signature _____ Date

I understand all the rules and regulations of Munising High School as explained in the student handbook. I agree that my student is to be graded by the expectations outlined in this document. I understand how to contact the instructor for any questions. I will support my student in his/her reading improvement.

_____ Parent/Guardian Sig. _____ Date

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