**Senior Writing Project**

**COMPONENTS**

1. **Six-Word Memoir:** You will construct a six-word memoir that articulates your values, beliefs, experiences, and/or perspective on life. You must use exactly six words—no more, no less. This is not a list of descriptors about yourself. Instead, think of this as a six-word statement that defines you (or a part of you) and your life. For more clarity, research *Smith* magazine’s six-word memoir project. This component is worth 30 points.
2. **Letter:** You are to write a 1+ page letter to a person or party of your choice. The only catch is that no two people may write to the same addressee. (For example, if student A wants to write a letter to his father, student B cannot write a letter to her father.) As it is a letter, be sure to address the recipient(s), date the letter, and sign off on the letter. This component is worth 40 points.
3. **Five-Sentence Story:** You will write a complete story in exactly five sentences. It can be factual or fictional, and the topic/storyline is complete up to you. Consider your use of punctuation as you craft the sentences, especially as you must work within the five sentence parameters. A good story develops character(s), setting, and plot. Remember, the five elements of plot are as follows: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution. This component is worth 30 points.
4. **Topical Piece:** You are to choose ONE specific topic and write 1+ page of prose about the topic selected. Like is the case with the letter, no two students are to write about the same topic. Thus, you must commit to a single, original topic before writing this component. You have the liberty to structure this piece however you choose, but some options include: asking a question about the topic and subsequently answering it, writing an editorial/opinion about the topic, doing research and providing a research report, interviewing someone and discussing his/her ideas on the topic, etc. This component is worth 40 points.
5. **Free Write/Draw:** The final component, a free write/draw, allows you to exercise full creative license. You can write (or draw) in whatever format you choose about whatever you wish (so long as it’s school appropriate). You can write a poem or song, complete an in-depth illustration, free write about something of interest, or do a variation of one of the components listed above. This component is designed to give you an opportunity to be self-reflective and exploratory. It is worth 40 points.

**SCORING**

* Each component will be graded on adherence to the guidelines stated above as well as the grammar/mechanics and overall appeal.
* Each component is worth 30 or 40 points, for a total of 200 points overall for the final product; participation during in-class work time will total an additional 100 points. **The complete project is worth 300 points.**

NOTE: The arrangement of the components is up to you. You may choose to put each component on a separate page, or you may run them together on one continuous document. Be sure that EACH component is clearly identified though. Also provide a cover page with your name, the due date, title of project, and class.