

SEMESTER 2

Week 5: Jan. 30 – Feb. 3

Reading Selections	Genre	Objectives	Pages
<i>from Candide</i>	Novel Excerpt	Literary Study: Analyzing satire Reading Strategy: Applying background knowledge Vocabulary: Understanding word origins	243-252

Assignments

Read and Write Book

__ pages 244-245	“Before You Read” Activities	_____ (points/grade)
__ pages 246-250	Read (notes & margin activities)	_____ (points/grade)
__ pages 251-252	“After You Read” Activities	_____ (points/grade)
__ page 355	Cause-and-Effect Diagram	_____ (points/grade)
__ pages 190-191	“Before You Read” Activities	_____ (points/grade)

Writing

This week you will continue with your “Theme of My Life” personal narrative. Show both versions of your introduction to your teacher or other trusted reader. Find out which one they like best and why. Ask for specific feedback to improve the introduction paragraph to make it even more engaging, more detailed, and/or clearer. Nothing is perfect the first time—take advantage of the feedback and apply it toward revising your opening paragraph. Make it awesome!

Revisit your “Story Map” from week 4. Use this as a planning tool as a guide to move forward as you write your narrative. The main objective of a personal narrative is *to entertain or motivate readers by sharing an important experience in your life*. Some key components that can help you accomplish this are:

- Actions – relate what you (and others) did in a situation.
- Sensory details – show what you saw, smelled, heard, tasted, or touched.
- Personal thoughts – reveal what you thought during your experience.
- Dialogue – use dialogue (actual spoken words) to add personality to your writing.

- The body paragraphs of a narrative generally have three parts:
1. The **topic sentence** – introduces the experience
 2. The **body sentences** – share details that re-create the experience
 3. The **closing sentence** – reflects on the experience

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___ Group 18: “Apostrophes (Contractions)” & “Semicolons” _____(points/grade)

Week 6: Feb. 6 – Feb. 10

Reading Selection	Genre	Objectives	Pages
The Myth of Sisyphus	Essay	Literary Study: Analyzing persuasion Reading Strategy: Determining main idea and supporting details/Taking notes Vocabulary: Understanding word origins	253-264

Assignments

Read and Write Book

- ___special Read about “The Myth of Sisyphus” (2 pages that follow)
- ___pages 254-255 “Before You Read” Activities _____(points/grade)
- ___pages 256-263 **Read** (margin activities & Note Taking) _____(points/grade)
- ___page 264 “After You Read” Activities _____(points/grade)
- ___pages 356-357 Vocabulary & Web _____(points/grade)

Writing

Based on teacher feedback, revise first draft of your personal narrative from last week with attention to areas identified. Areas may include but are not limited to:

- Elaborate → develop ideas in greater detail by adding explanation, dialogue, descriptive and/or colorful language, etc.
- Adjust paragraphing.
- Add transitional words and expressions to help your narrative flow clearly from beginning to end.
- Eliminate wordiness and unnecessary repetition.
- Choose language that expresses ideas precisely and concisely.
- Choose words and phrases for desired effect.
- Vary sentence patterns for clearer meaning, higher interest and/or better style. _____(points/grade)

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- ___ Group 19: “Parentheses” & “colons” _____(points/grade)

The Myth of Sisyphus

Sisyphus was a character in Greek mythology who earned himself a reputation for being a liar, a cheat and all-round knave. He was the son of Aeolus, king of Thessaly. He married Merope and founded the kingdom of Ephyra (Corinth) where he ruled with malice and deceit. His only positive legacy was that he was remembered as a keen promoter of navigation and commerce.

On the death of his father, Sisyphus' younger brother Salmoneus acceded to the throne of Thessaly before Sisyphus could assume the role that was his birthright. On consulting the Delphic Oracle, Sisyphus set about to avenge being cheated of kingship by seducing Salmoneus' daughter, Tyro. Tyro, Sisyphus' niece, bore him two children but when she discovered that Sisyphus was motivated by revenge against her father rather than love for her she murdered their two young sons to spite him. When Sisyphus found out, he went to the marketplace of Larissa and publicly accused his brother, Salmoneus, of incest and the murder of the two young boys. Salmoneus' guilt was believed and he was banished from the kingdom of Thessaly, at which point Sisyphus inherited the throne.

Sisyphus' over-confidence eventually caught up with him when he decided to meddle in the affairs of Zeus, King of the Gods. When Zeus kidnapped Aegina, her father Asopus, God of Rivers, came to Corinth in search of her. Sisyphus knew of Zeus' crime but decided to use this knowledge as leverage with Asopus. He refused to tell Asopus the truth unless the River God installed a spring with continuous water for his kingdom of Corinth. Asopus agreed and Sisyphus fulfilled his side of the bargain, feeling smug at the deal he had struck.

Asopus sought revenge on Zeus and nearly succeeded but Zeus struck him forever lame with a bolt of lightning. When Zeus heard of Sisyphus' loose lips he ordered his brother Hades, God of the Underworld, to take Sisyphus down into Tartarus to punish him for daring to meddle in the affairs of immortals. The cunning Sisyphus, however, refused to learn his lesson. He instead tricked Hades into demonstrating how to put on his handcuffs and quickly apprehended Hades and held the God captive in his house. This turn of events wreaked havoc throughout the world, because with Hades incapacitated, no one could die, not even those who had been beheaded or suffered similar grisly fates.

Eventually, Ares, the God of War, grew tired of his battles, feeling unfulfilled at his inability to slay his enemies. And so, Ares stormed the

house, freed Hades and handed Sisyphus over to the God of the Underworld for his descent into Tartarus. Sisyphus, sly as a fox, hatched another plan. Upon his descent to the afterlife he instructed his wife Merope not to bury his corpse. On his subsequent arrival in Tartarus Sisyphus pleads with Persephone, Hades' wife, that his lack of a conventional burial ceremony makes his journey down the River Styx to the afterlife an illegitimate one. Persephone is convinced and grants Sisyphus a three-day stay of execution to arrange for the burial of his body. However, once Sisyphus is set free he shows no intention of keeping his promise to return. It fell upon Hermes, the Messenger God, to finally fetch up Sisyphus so that he could be at the mercy of the Gods for evermore.

The Gods didn't take kindly to mere mortals behaving as their equals. Zeus therefore decided to make an example of Sisyphus, to warn each and every human what would happen to them if they thought they could outsmart the mighty dwellers of Mount Olympus. Sisyphus' sorry fate was to toil mercilessly at pushing a giant boulder up a steep hill, the aim being to roll it down the other side. This was an impossible task as whenever Sisyphus came remotely close to the top of the hill, the boulder would always come rolling back down the way it came and so he would have to start again. According to the myth, he's still there now...



Pacific Charter Institute English 12/Spring Semester

Weeks 6-9: Feb. 13 – Mar. 16

Break from Read and Write Book for Novel Unit*see note below

Week 6: Feb. 13 – Feb. 17

Benchmark Test 1

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___ Group 20: “Apostrophes” _____ (points/grade)

Writing

Based on teacher feedback, edit the second draft of your personal narrative to fix any and all spelling plus grammar, mechanics and usage errors. These may include but are not limited to:

- Make sure all sentences are complete. Recognize and correct sentence fragments and run-ons.
- Make sure subjects agree with their verbs and correct unintentional shifts in verb tense (time).
- Correct any misuse of frequently confused words (e.g., to/too/two; there/their/they’re)
- Check for end punctuation.
- Punctuate dialogue with quotation marks.
- Use commas to separate items in a series.
- Correct any deviations from Standard English.

Final draft of the personal narrative is due next week!

_____ (points/grade)

Week 7: Feb. 27 – Mar. 2

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___ Sentence Revision #1: Unnecessary and Redundant Modifiers _____ (points/grade)

Week 8: Mar. 5 – Mar. 9

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___ Sentence Revision #2: Prepositional Phrases _____ (points/grade)

Week 9: Mar. 12 – Mar. 16

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___ Sentence Revision #1: Adverbial Phrases

_____ (points/grade)

*Students are directed to choose a book from the *Edge Library Series* that they have NOT yet read. A “World Literature” title is recommended (but not required). Among these with appropriate Lexile ratings are:

And the Earth Did Not Devour Him
Keeper
Othello
Picture Bride
The Other Side of the Sky
Things Fall Apart