English I: Multi-Modal Writing Project

What is a multi-modal writing project? In a multi-modal writing project, students incorporate images, sound (music, podcasts, voice overs), video, animation, clip art, etc. into their writing. In this assignment, you are going to be writing <u>realistic fiction</u>, similar to the novel *Speak*. To do so, you'll need to create an original story that includes the following:



- Original setting, characters, conflict, events, and resolution (remember that you're writing REALISTIC fiction. Therefore, all plot elements should have "real life" connections).
- PowerPoint presentation that is well organized and visually appealing (10+ slides, including title slide & citations)
- Original writing projects that express the story in a different, "multi-modal" way. Each writing project must meet requirements outlined on page 3 of this handout (See *True Diary* examples on p. 5 for examples).
- Citations for all images and information (Works Cited = last slide of presentation)
- School appropriate content

Rubric: Multimodal Essay (Realistic Fiction)	Name:
Content	
 Story's setting, characters, conflict, events, and resolution are 	
clear and developed in great depth (20 pts., 4 pts. each)	
 Story meets "realistic fiction" genre requirements (5 pts.) 	
 Writing projects (written, video, podcast, "other") help enhance 	
reader's experience and understanding of the story (5 pts.)	
 Writing projects show understanding of main character's 	
thoughts, emotions, experiences, etc. (5 pts.)	
 Met assignment requirements: (10 pts.) 	
 - 5+ writing projects (realistic fiction) 	
- 1-2 min. video	
- 1-2 min. podcast	
- 5+ photos/clipart	
 - 4+ "other" works (supporting writing) 	/ 45 pts.
	7 45 pts.
Organization	
• Transition words used when appropriate (2 pts.)	
• Presentation is neatly done & visually appealing (5 pts.)	
• Writing projects don't "point to" related media; rather, they tell	
the story THROUGH use of related media (2 pts.)	
- BAD example: "This picture shows me sad on prom night	
because I didn't have a date."	
- BETTER example: "The tears were endless. My heart ached of	
loneliness as I held up the wall with the other date-less losers at the dance."	
the dance.	/ 9 pts.
Other (5 pts. each)	7 5 pts:
 Overall quality of writing (spelling, mechanics, grammar, etc.) 	
 Citations, including images, properly cited using works cited 	/ 10 pts.
	, 10 pts.
TOTAL POINTS	/ 64 points (20% of grade)

Step One: Create a Character and Plotline

Plot	DESCRIPTION of Your Story
Setting: Where and when does your story take place? What is the location like? Include details!	
Characters: What do your characters look, sound, feel, and act like? How old are they? What is their occupation? What are they about? Include details!	MAJOR character(s):
	MINOR characters:
 Conflicts: What is going wrong in your main character's life? Example from Speak: Major conflict: Melinda was raped and struggled because she wasn't able to 	MAJOR conflict:
 tell anyone about it. Minor conflict: Melinda's friends stopped talking to her, her parents don't communicate well, she's not doing well in school, Mr. Neck gives her a hard time, Andy Evans harasses her, etc. 	MINOR conflicts:
Major Events What is going to happen to your character that will help mold your story into one piece? These should serve as the "outline" for your	Event 1:
story so that you can fill in the rest of the details while writing.	Event 2:
	Event 4:
Resolution	
What happens at the end of the story? Is there a lesson that's learned or a "silver lining" to what happens to your main character? How do the other characters end up? Explain and include details!	

Step Two: Begin Writing

Now that you've got a strong outline of your story and you have a deep understanding of your main character, it's time to begin writing (try to hold back your excitement)! To tell your story in a multimodal way, your story will take the shape of journal entries, drawings, poems, e-mails, etc. in addition to regular, written text. In other words, you are essentially writing your story on PowerPoint and inserting various "media" to add interest and creativity to your story. Make sure to keep track of any websites or resources you use. Using PowerPoint, assemble the following requirements to create your multimodal essay. *(HELPFUL TIP: Create a separate folder for this assignment. Title it by your first and last name. Then, any time you insert an*



image, video, sound clip, etc., save the file separately into this folder. This will prevent any problems with viewing your slideshow's contents when turning it in.)

Writing Project Requirements: Your essay MUST include...

5+ pieces original of realistic fiction (at least 10 sentences each)

- emails
- journal entries
- blog
- letter or notes to a friend

A 1-2 minute original video supporting your writing

- newscast
- hidden camera
- acted scene
- commercial
- A 1-2 minute original podcast supporting your writing
 - radio call in
 - school announcement
 - radio advertisement
- 5+ photos or clip art supporting your writing
 - from internet
- 4+ other works supporting your writing
 - Poem
 - Comic strip
 - "Fakebook" page
 - Sticky note
 - Text message or "Tweet"
 - Drawing

- Song
- Quote
- Tagxedo word cloud
- Graffiti
- Map
- Scrapbook page

- Facebook message
- school report or homework assignment
- other ideas?
- interview
- talk show
- other ideas?
- public service announcement
- other ideas?
- taken or drawn by you
 - Snapchat image (or other social media post)
 - Other idea (ex: detention slip- use your imagination)

Assignment Timeline: Due Dates & "Checkpoints" for Multimodal Essay

**The following assignments & deadlines are to be used as guidelines in this project. Although you may receive productivity/participation points on a regular basis to ensure you're using your work time, the entire project will not be graded until its due date of 6/1. Therefore, if you are struggling to complete one of them "on time," consider working on another aspect of the project and returning to the one that gave you trouble at a later time. The important thing is to have the project completed, in its entirety, by the end of class on 6/1. Although this seems like a lot of



time, it is important to stay on schedule as much as possible- this form of responsibility is part of our curriculum and should be followed accordingly. You will present your projects to the class on our scheduled final time on Tuesday, 6/1.

Day 1 (1/9): Introduce project, create project folder, begin outlining story ideas

Day 2-(1/10): Finish outlining story & conference w/ Mrs. Ness when finished. Write 1st writing project (realistic-fiction-10+ sentences), write 1 "other work" to support writing_** SNOW DAY- NO SCHOOL**

Day 3 (1/11): Write 1st & 2nd writing project (realistic fiction- 10+ sentences)

Day 4 (1/12): Write 3rd writing project (realistic fiction- 10+ sentences), write 2 "other works" to support writing

Day 5 (1/13): Write 4^{th} & 5^{th} writing projects (realistic fiction) & format to PPT

Day 6 (1/16): Record & insert podcast to PPT, insert images to PPT & write 1 "other work" to support writing

Day 7 (1/17): Record & insert video to PPT, write 1 "other work" to support writing

Day 8 (1/18): Final exam time

- Finalize & assemble project (peer edit optional)
 - Check rubric to ensure requirements are met
 - o Make sure all files work and are saved SEPARATELY into a folder
 - Make final changes and edits
- Hand in project
 - Name folder by first and last name
 - Drag ENTIRE project folder to drop box by the end of the day

Journal example (realistic fiction, 10+ sentences long):

Journals for English class are a curious thing. The teacher says she won't read them, but she has to see if we are writing so she can give us a grade. Well, she had better not read this entry because I don't want anyone to know. However, I also don't want to keep it inside anymore.

I thought high school was going to be a magical time. I planned to come in to high school and be friends with everyone, flitting from social group to social group feeling accepted by all. Why not? I don't have anything against the other students in the school. I try really hard to be nice to everyone. So why did they pick me to HARASS?!!!

I think I made the mistake of talking to a person that they "owned." He was a senior boy, but not someone that I wanted to have anything more than a friendship. He worked as a grocery bagger at my father's store, so I knew him a little from helping out at the store in the summer. They were furious that I, a freshman, would dare to be friends with someone from their group. That's when it all began.

First they called me names in the hallway. Then they came to my freshmen volleyball game. No varsity girls ever come to watch the freshmen play, so I knew I was in for it. They stared at me the whole time, whispering behind cupped hands. They laughed loudly if I missed the ball, but acted like they were laughing at something else so they wouldn't get in trouble.

What do I do about this? Should I stand up for myself? Will they just go away? Should I try to talk to them? Ugh! I don't know where to go from here?

Multi-Modal Novel Examples:

• from The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie (actual pages from the book)



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO AGNES ADAMS

Okay, now you're probably asking yourself, "Who is Agnes Adams?"

Well, let me tell you. Agnes Adams is my mother. MY MOTHER! And Adams is her *maiden* name. So that means my mother was born an Adams and she was

So that means my mother was born an Adams and she was still an Adams when she wrote her name in that book. And she was thirty when she gave birth to me. Yep, so that means I was staring at a geometry book that was at least thirty years older than I was.

I couldn't believe it.

How horrible is that? My school and my tribe are so poor and sad that we have

to study from the same dang books our parents studied from. That is absolutely the saddest thing in the world.

And let me tell you, that old, old, old, decrepit geometry book hit my heart with the force of a nuclear bomb. My hopes and dreams floated up in a mushroom cloud. What do you do when the world has declared nuclear war on you?



Here's one of me:



I draw all the time.

I draw cartoons of my mother and father; my sister and grandmother; my best friend, Rowdy; and everybody else on the rez.

I draw because words are too unpredictable

I draw because words are too limited.

If you speak and write in English, or Spanish, or Chinese, or any other language, then only a certain percentage of human beings will get your meaning.

But when you draw a picture, everybody can understand it. If I draw a cartoon of a flower, then every man, woman, and child in the world can look at it and say, "That's a flower."