

Assignment

For this first essay, I am asking you to choose an object, or a place, or a person, or an event of some significance to you and attempt to describe it to me. That is, describe what you choose in as much detail as possible as well as the reason for its significance to you. Why did you choose this, in particular, to write about? What makes it special or interesting to you?

It is entirely up to you what you choose to write about. For example, if you choose to write about a place, it can be a real place to which you currently have access (a certain room in your house, a place on the PSU campus, etc.), a place you can visit largely or only through memory or photographs (your childhood bedroom, a place you and your family once vacationed to, etc.), or a fictional place that you can “visit” in one sense or another (a place you often dream about, a place you see in a film, etc.). In choosing your place, keep in mind that description and narration is the combined main focus of this essay, so you’ll want to choose something or some story you can describe and tell in detail. Beyond that, feel free to be as creative as you’d like!

You are certainly allowed to choose some spectacular place to write about, but it can also be somewhere as seemingly insignificant as a spot next to a particular tree or street corner or your kitchen table or your desk in your room but your job is to make this place interesting and appealing to your target readers who you want to influence or even help by showing your story.

The paper should be at least four pages, typed and double-spaced, and follow normal MLA formatting procedures. Your name should appear in the top left-hand corner, followed by my name, the name of our class (Writing 121), and the date. Last name and page number should appear in a running header. For more information on MLA formatting, visit the Purdue Owl MLA Formatting and Style Guide by Googling “OWL MLA”. This is a great resource that I still refer to whenever I’m writing a paper!