

## Moment in Time

### Requirements

This essay should take the form of a reflective narrative. Think about a single moment from your past—an experience that was rich with meaning or significance. Through vivid sensory detail drawn from your memory, describe that moment and how it shaped you for better or for worse. Then, from the particular (your *sea of experience*), take us to the universal (the *mountain of perception*): What does *your* experience tell us about larger things to which all of us can relate—childhood, family, school, life? Remember, you are writing from your own experience and the meaning you attach to that experience. You must write in first-person, conversationally, in an authentic and engaging voice. And you must successfully use both the *snapshot* and the *thoughtshot*.

### Content

Be descriptive (use as many of the five senses as necessary) and tell a good story (feel free to use anecdotes, dialogues, internal monologues, humor, etc.). As always, ramblings, needless information, fluff, and fillers must not be used to lengthen your essay, and will reflect poorly on your grade—**read your “Writer Checklist” to see how to compose a proper creative essay**. Furthermore, do not arbitrarily toss in big words or simply pull a word from the thesaurus without understanding its more subtle meaning—*not all synonyms are alike*.

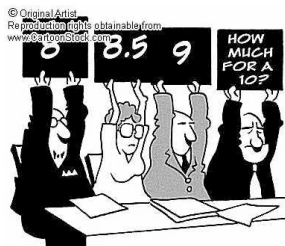
### Format

- Your essay should be typed in 11-point Times New Roman and must fall between 400-600 words
- Margins should be set at 1 inch, and lines should be double spaced and left unjustified
- Your name, course title, and period should appear (single spaced) at the top left corner
- An original title should be centered above the body of your paper in the same font and size
- Your paper must be stapled behind the rubric

### Grammar

Though you are writing conversationally and in the first-person, the rules of grammar still apply. As with content, the rules of grammar also apply. Remember that the function of good grammar is to breed clarity. The better your grammar is, the more clearly your thesis will resonate. Sentence fragments, run-ons, misspellings, and comma splices are cardinal offences. **Proofread you’re work!**

## Moment in Time



Teacher: *McEvilly*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	Rubric				Points
	2	3	4	5	
<b>Grammar &amp; Mechanics</b>	No obvious effort to revise or polish	Five or more serious errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation	Some serious errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation	No serious errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation	_____
<b>Format</b>	Complete disregard for formatting guidelines	Follows few of the formatting guidelines	Follows most of the formatting guidelines	Follows all of the formatting guidelines	_____
<b>Snapshots &amp; Thoughtshots</b>	Missing	Includes one but does not successfully develop the other	Includes both but lacks richness of detail or fails to draw the reader fully inside the mind of the subject	Successfully includes and develops both through vivid imagery, rich, sensory detail, and thoughtful reflection and feeling	_____
<b>Sea of Experience</b>	Missing	Fails to focus on a <i>single</i> moment in time or offers only a thin recollection of that moment	Finds and reports accurately a <i>single</i> moment in time	Finds, reports accurately, pulls back the layers, and successfully inhabits a <i>single</i> moment in time	_____
<b>Mountain of Perception</b>	Makes no discernable effort	States only the obvious; does not find larger themes in specific experiences	Finds occasional connections and deeper meaning behind things, but does not develop these insightfully	Finds universal themes in specific examples; develops connections between seemingly unconnected things; and searches for deeper meaning	_____
				<i>Total-----&gt;</i>	

**Teacher Comments:**