

Read: pg. 159, Biographical Writing.

Activity: Answer the following questions.

1. According to the author, who is the easiest person to write about?

2. Who is the second easiest?

3. That type of writing is called...

4. Regardless of who you write about, what is the purpose of biographical writing?

5. List five people you know well that you might like to write about.

Read: pg. 160-61, Sample Biographical Essay.

Activity: This biography has three parts, a beginning, middle and an end. According to the margins, the writer accomplishes certain things in each section. In the space provided, explain how the author accomplishes each:

1. Beginning- The Writer uses a story to introduce her subject. What happens in the story? _____

2. Middle- She shares the exact words of her subject. Write the quote here. _____

3. Middle- She also includes specific details about her subject. What are those details? _____

4. End- The writer closes with an important piece of advice. Write the advice here: _____

Read: pg. 160-61, Sample Biographical Essay.

Activity: Consider the list of five people you made yesterday. Choose one you are likely to write about. Use the Beginning, Middle and End Prompts to help you plan the story.

1. Beginning- Use a story to introduce your subject: _____

2. Middle- Include a quote or two you're your subject:

3. Middle- Include specific details about your subject:

4. End- Close with an important piece of advice:

Read: pg. 162, Writing Guidelines.

Activity: List as many people as possible that might fit into each of the following categories

1. Family members or friends: _____

2. People who have influenced you positively: _____

3. Other people that interest you: _____

Read: pg. 162, Writing Guidelines.

Activity: No matter who you are writing about, the sources of information are the same. List them below.

What are gathering details suggestions for when you collect memory details?

A gathering grid or a 5 W's chart work well for _____

Read: pg. 163, Writing the First Draft.

Activity: Today you are going to write about a time when your integrity (or someone you know) was tested. Use the guide below to help you plan your story.

Beginning- Say something interesting about the central character of your story. Tell what the story is going to be about.

Middle – Organize your story according to time or importance:

Ending – Explain the importance of the story:

Read: pg. 164, Revising and Editing.

Read: Pg. 164, Revising: Improving Your Writing

Activity: Copy down the five revision questions below. You will use them shortly to revise your journal prompt.

- _____ 1. _____

- _____ 2. _____

- _____ 3. _____

- _____ 4. _____

- _____ 5. _____

Read: Pg. 164, Editing

Activity: Fill in the blanks. Then complete the steps using today's journal.

Check your revised writing first for _____ - the smoothness of your sentences and the effectiveness of your _____.

Then check it for correctness- _____, punctuation, usage, and _____ errors.

What should you do after you complete your editing? _____

Prior to sharing your paper what do you do? _____

What is the purpose of doing? _____

Read: pg. 165, A Closer Look at Biographical Writing.

Activity: Use the Writing Tips on page 165 to answer the questions about the story on page 166.

1. What background information does Jesse Niebor provide about her sister Leah?

2. Does the author use any transitions or introductory phrases?

3. What information does the author simply summarize for you?

Read: pg. 173, Writing News Stories

Activity: List the three basic reporting skills:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Activity: Fill in the matrix below, demonstrating your understanding of basic reporting skills, using information from today's reading of *Dragonwings*.

Newsworthy topic	The Facts:	Beginning, Middle, And End of the Story

Read: pg. 174, Sample News Story.

Activity: List the three most important facts that Janelle Amos had to collect in order to write this story on the Delmer High School Senior-of-the-Year Award.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Activity: Pretend you are a reporter in San Francisco. List the five most important facts from today's story.

4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____

Read: pg. 175, Writing Guidelines.

Activity: Answer the following questions.

1. What five questions should be answered in the Introductory paragraph?

2. List the who, what, where, when, and why for a local news story you are aware of.

3. List the who, what, when, where, and why for a human interest story about someone close to you.

4. List the who, what, when, where and why of today's **Dragonwings** reading.

Read: pg. 176, Gathering Details.

Activity: Write five interview questions you would ask Robin about today's reading if you were a San Francisco Reporter. Each question should start with Who, What, When, Where or Why.

1. Who:

2. What:

3. Where:

4. When:

5. Why:

Read: pgs. 191-192, Writing Stories and the Shape of Stories.

Activity: Answer the following questions.

What is the difference between writing about yourself and writing a short story?

How are writing made-up stories different than writing about yourself?

What are the two things every story contains?

_____ and _____

How does the story unfold? _____

What suggestions does the author have to help gain an understanding of basic story structure? _____

Read: Pg. 192, **Plot**

Activity: Fill in the blanks and answer the questions below.

What do the best fictional stories all have in common? _____

The _____ refers to the events or _____ that move a story along from start to _____.

Name the five parts of the plot in order:

Draw the Plot Line from page 192 below

Read: Pg. 192, **Exposition**

Activity: Answer the following questions.

1. What three elements of a story are generally introduced in the Exposition of the plot?

2. Having read the exposition in bold, use the space provided to introduce the main character, his conflict and the setting in which he is found. Use your own words.

Read: Page 102, Exposition

Activity: Plan the exposition for a short story about how Moon Shadow gains respect in his new neighborhood by introducing the following:

1. The main Character:

2. The Conflict:

3. The Setting:

Read: pg. 193, Rising Action.

Activity: In your own words describe what usually takes place during the rising action of a story.

Activity: After reading the three actions leading up to Juan's climax, explain how each action leads to the next.

Activity: Plan two rising action events leading up to Moon Shadow's climactic realization that someone precious to him is caught in the rubble.

Rising action event number one:

Rising action event number two:

Read: pg. 193, Climax.

Activity: Use your own words to write a definition of the climax of the story.

Activity: Review today's key paragraph. Copy the sentence you believe to be the most climactic. Explain your choice.

Read: pg. 193, Falling Action and Resolution.

Activity: Write the part of the plot next to its description

1. _____: In this part of the story, the main character learns to live on after the conflict.
2. _____: This part brings the story to a close. With some stories, the falling action and the resolution are so closely related, that it is difficult to tell them apart.

Activity: Pretend you are the narrator. Plan the falling action and resolution for *Dragonwings* as if today's reading were the end of the book by answering the following questions:

1. Why did Moon Shadow think that Windrider was more a mechanical artist than a businessman?

2. How does Moon Shadow feel about his father and his father's dream of flying?

3. What do you think the White Deer mean when he told Moon Shadow "...You can only follow the course of your nature."?

4. Where did Moon Shadow find his mountain of gold?

Read: pg. 199, The Quest, The Discovery

Activity: Summarize the explanation for a Quest story pattern.

Do you think *Dragonwings* can be characterized as a Quest type of story pattern? Why or Why not?

What two things occur during the discovery of a story?

In *Dragonwings* where does the Discovery take place?

Read: pg. 199, The Right of Passage, The Choice

Activity: The Coming of Age can also be called?

Where in Dragonwings do you see Right of Passage? Which character do you see this in?

What are the characteristics of The Choice?

In Dragonwings a number of characters face The Choice. Describe one who makes The Choice and how the choice turned out for them or what impact did it have on the character

Read: pg. 199, The Union, The Reversal

Activity: What are the characteristics of The Union?

Use the space below to plan the rising action and the climax of the Union story involving Windrider and his wife.

- What are the actions leading up to his arrival in China?
- Do they reunite on the dock, or does Windrider surprise his wife at home?
- Does the family live happily ever after in the land of the Golden Mountain and Demons?
- Perhaps it ends tragically... Use a diagram, an outline or a quick write format.

The Return can be most easily explained
as _____

Do you believe The Reversal took place anywhere during Dragonwings?
How and where did you see evidence of this?
