

Compose a short story

Criteria: Using knowledge gained throughout the unit, students will construct a short story of their choice. The story should be at least two full pages in length. Most importantly, the story should prove that the student understands the different concepts and examples behind the American Dream and its history. The short story should demonstrate both factual information on the American Dream as well as what this Dream means to the student as an individual. Stories can be written in the first person form if student chooses to do so for most success.

Standards Addressed:

Apply word analysis and vocabulary skills to comprehend selections (C)

Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency (C)

Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and structure (C)

Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences (C)

Communicate ideas in writing to accomplish a variety of purposes (C)

Self-assess work in a variety of ways and make appropriate corrections when necessary (P)

Story shows student knowledge of the American Dream (10 points)

10 points – Student uses class notes, class readings, and outside sources to show mastery of concept

5 points – Student attempts to show knowledge of the American Dream by using notes and novels, but student is still unable to make relationships/comparisons to outside sources

1 point – Student makes very little attempt to show they have knowledge of the concept of the American Dream

Story is compelling and creative (10 points)

10 points – Student put thought into the development of their plot, character development, etc. to make their story thoughtfully interesting

5 points – Student neglected to use literary elements to make their story intriguing to the reader, but story still represents the concept of the American Dream

1 point – Student did very little to make their story interesting and compelling; literary strategies used were weak, confusing, and lacked enthusiasm for the assignment

Organization (10 points)

10 points – Story is coherent, organized, and easy to follow

5 points – Story is somewhat coherent, but noticeably disorganized and confusing to the reader

1 point – Student's story does not flow, is confusing and choppy, and proves student made very little attempt at assignment

Meets Length Requirement (5 points)

5 points – Story is at least two pages in length

3 points – Story is about one page in length

1 point – Story is shorter than ½ page in length; student put forth minimal effort

TOTAL POINTS = _____/35