

Freshmen Summer Writing Assignment-2020

This writing assignment will be due on the first day of classes.

You will turn in this assignment to your English teacher.

What are you writing?

You are writing a five paragraph guided reflection on who you are as a *person* and as a *student*.

Each paragraph has a list of prompts. While you don't have to use all of them, we do want you to stretch yourself to write about a few of them.

You may handwrite this assignment on paper or type it on the computer. Make sure you have a copy saved that you can submit on the first day of class!

Paragraph One: Introduce yourself

- Who are you? How would you describe yourself? Why?
- How would others describe you? Why? (think: how would my family describe me? How would my friends describe me?)
- Who are you in the context/surroundings of your family?
- Who are you in the context/surroundings of your friends?
- What are you interested in? What are you not interested in?
- What were you involved in during middle school?

Paragraph Two: Describe an event that caused change in your life

- What event in your life has been important to form who you are today?
- Describe an event (or events) in your life that changed who you are as a person. How did it change who you are?
- Describe an event (or events) in your life that changed who you are as a student. How did it change who you are as a student?
- This can be more of a memoir-y paragraph. What story do you want me to hear?
- What should we know about you and your history/what do you want to share with us?

Paragraph Three: Describe yourself as a student

- What do you want your new teachers to know about you as a student?
- What kind of study skills/learning skills have you learned in the past that WORK for you?
- Describe the atmosphere and surroundings where you learn best. Think of what you've done in your best classes so far!
- Describe some of your habits at school or as a student.
- Describe some of your strengths as a student.

- What skills or habits do you have that can help you freshmen year?
- Describe some of your weaknesses as a student.
- How would some of your favorite/best teachers describe you as a student?

Paragraph Four: Talk to us about what you need:

- Who are the people you go to when you need something or have a question?
- How do you make/keep friends?
- How do you deal with stress?
- When you want to relax, what do you do?
- What's a place you go to in order to not be bothered? Why? Describe the atmosphere.
- Where do you work on your homework?
- Where do you go when you need help on your homework?

Paragraph Five: Look towards the future

- As you enter into your freshmen year at DePaul, what are you most excited about?
- What are you most nervous about?
- What do you wish to leave behind in your 8th grade (or middle school) years to start fresh in high school?
- How do you hope to change or develop this coming year?
- What goals do you have for yourself as you enter high school?
- How do you hope your experience as a freshman will be similar to your experiences in middle school?
- How do you hope your experience as a freshman will be different from your experiences in middle school?

How will you be graded? I will be looking at:

- **CLARITY:** Clarity of writing—is it clear? Did you revise or clear up any errors that might lead to missing or confusing information for the reader? Did you use specific examples to show who you are as a student and as a person?
- **COMPOSITION:** How did you write it? Did you follow the rules of capitalization and punctuation? Did you write in clear and complete sentences?
- **DEVELOPMENT:** Did you fully develop your answers? Did you answer several questions in the prompts? Did you write full paragraphs (5 or more sentences each) for each of the sections? Were your answers thoughtful and true, showing true reflection instead of rushing to finish it?
- **EDITED:** You should be proud of this writing assignment when you turn it in. Did you read over it when you finished? Did you correct any errors? Is the writing clear and legible?

Remember, you don't have to answer every question. Instead, make sure you answer a few questions thoroughly.