**Creative Non-Fiction Essay 100 Points Summative**

**Dr. Randy S. Gingrich**

**AP Language and Composition**

**Cambridge High School**

Rough Draft: Friday, March 27th 4pm

2nd Draft: Friday, April 3rd at 4pm

Words: 750 to 2000

Creative Non-Fiction is non-fiction which relays a story or an essay about actual events, people, places, or experiences using the tools of fictive or literary writing: deep description, characterization, figurative language, personal reflection, and varied syntax and diction.

**Characteristics of Creative Non-Fiction:**

* Veracity: does the paper tell the truth?
* Facts are accurate and researched
* Uses a literary approach (covered specifically below)
* Personal presence of the author is important (may be in first person)
* Is an effort at self-discovery: the writer may be exploring the topic as they write as opposed to more formal research in which they are writing about information that they already have
* Focuses on characterization, description, scenes, and setting
* May blend genres—have dialogue, narration, poetic elements, journal, stream of conscious elements

**Types of Creative Non-fiction**

* Personal experience-personal narrative focuses on a story on anecdote about an experience that the narrator was involved in our witnessed
* Description of an object, person, place, or event
* I believe essay
* You may also select to write a completely fictional story if you choose

**Requirements:**

A. Varied and sophisticated syntax and diction, precise verb and noun usage (avoid conjugations of the verb to be, general words such as it, that, some, some things, things, sometime etc.)

B. Strong use of literary devices (you must incorporate at least three different examples of literary /rhetorical devices within your essay)

similes

metaphors

personification

imagery/symbols

irony

hyperbole

repetition

rhetorical questions

dialogue

characterization

Your essay will be entirely graded on writing style: flow; use of literary devices; originality of expression; variance, precision and sophistication of syntax and diction.

**Rubric for Creative Non-Fiction Essay**

**AP Lang and Comp Dr. Gingrich**

“4”

A paper in this category is a **superior** example of creative non-fiction.

The paper creates a very strong connection to the reader, illustrating the writer’s insightful self-reflection and powerful voice. Vivid description, imagery, along with sophisticated incorporation of figurative language and rhetorical devices, maintain the audience’s attention throughout. The paper possesses deep honesty making the topic and events of the essay very believable and verifiable. Strong, varied, and appropriate diction, verbs, and syntax illustrate the precision of the writing style. Organization, particularly the power, engagement, enticement, and seductiveness of the opening and conclusion, flow fluidly from beginning to end like the sweet, succulent nectar of the Titans.

“3”

A paper in this category is **an effective** example of creative non-fiction.

The essay makes a strong connection to the reader through personal examples or thoughtful insights on the topic. A clear, original voice is evident through descriptive imagery and incorporation of figurative language and rhetorical devices. The paper appears to be believable through concrete examples and the even flow of events.

Strong verbs, varied diction and syntax, indicate the effectiveness of the writing. Organization is evident through effective transitions of paragraphs and an effort to engage the reader’s interest from the beginning of the paper.

“2”

A paper in this category is **an adequate** example of creative non-fiction. The writer has some originality of voice and makes an effort to connect to the reader, although there may be points where the reader becomes confused or loses interest. The author attempts to use description, imagery, and figurative language although those attempts may not be as effective as in higher scoring essays. Some gaps in explanation or inclusion of obviously fabricated details may lead readers to question the authenticity and legitimacy of the essay. Verbs, diction, and syntax may be repetitive, inappropriately used, or imprecise. Organization is generally clear, although it may be unoriginal or unsophisticated.

“1”

A paper in this category is **an inadequate** example of creative non-fiction.

Any of the following may be incomplete, inadequate, unoriginal or poorly develop