

Mike Murray

The Book of Me

English 574

The Book of Me is an extended writing project that showcases different writing styles, and the strategies of good writing in all of those styles. It also features pieces that have different grammatical standards and practices, thus introducing the students to the different writing styles and their acceptable grammars. The project also allows for revision and edition all the way through, taking the pressure off grammatical correctness and placing it on quality writing first and foremost.

The Book of Me consists of six pieces of writing, with various peer editing and writing conferences. The final project is a compiled book, featuring all six of the pieces.

The pieces are:

- An “I am From” Poem.
 - Borrowed from Linda Christensen, this is a personal narrative poem describing the student’s childhood.
- Letter from the future.
 - A letter written to the student from himself, ten years in the future.
- Letter from the past.
 - A letter written to the student from himself, ten years ago.
- Dream Job Resume.
 - A formal resume for the student’s dream job. This is also a research intensive piece.
- Short Story.
 - Written about the student’s childhood, telling the story of a specific event.
 - Written as a fictionalized account.
 - Written in the style of an author we have studied in class.
- Creative Non-fiction.
 - A creatively written, journalistic essay written to persuade.
 - Written about a problem that the student sees in his or her everyday life.