

Goal: To write and turn in a creative short story using a photograph of historic North Carolina as the basis for the story.

Objectives

- show an understanding of the elements of the plot (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution)
- participate productively in peer editing and brainstorming
- use proper grammar and punctuation in the final product

The rubric for grading this assignment is on the back of this sheet for your reference.

Steps

1. Choose a photograph from the attached list.
2. Brainstorm possible stories behind the action in the picture.
3. Use the interactive graphic organizer found online at <http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/plot-diagram/> to help you organize your thoughts.
4. Work productively!
5. You may also work at home each night. You will need to make use of a portable flashdrive, email the word document to yourself, or utilize Dropbox in order to work at home.
6. At the beginning of each day working on this project, we will have 15 minutes of peer editing and brainstorming.
7. After that, you will have at least 45 minutes in class to work.

Your short stories are due at the beginning of class on _____.

Short Story Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Understanding of the elements of plot	Each of the elements of plot is easily identified by the reader in the final draft. The story is organized cohesively. The integration of the photograph is seamless.	There is a little confusion as to the elements of plot in the story. The story is mostly effective in its use of the photograph.	The use of the elements of plot is questionable or they are not easily identified.	The story is not organized using the elements of plot, or the photograph is used poorly or not at all within the context of the story.
Grammar and punctuation	There are zero or one grammar or punctuation errors in the final draft. Character and place names that the author invented are spelled consistently throughout.	There are two to three grammar or punctuation errors in the final draft.	There are three to five grammar or punctuation errors in the final draft.	There are more than five grammar or punctuation errors in the final draft.
Participation in peer editing	Student participated thoroughly in peer editing, listened to fellow students, and offered good advice to the best of their ability. No time was wasted during this time.	Student participated thoroughly in peer editing, but some time was wasted in the process.	Student's participation in peer editing was seriously lacking and mostly unhelpful, though some basic editing was accomplished.	Student's participation in peer editing was noncommittal and unhelpful to peers and self.
Use of graphic organizer	Student used the graphic organizer fully; the final product is clearly based on what was created in the graphic organizer.	Student used less than the full graphic organizer but more than 80% of it. Not all changes made to the final story made it onto the organizer.	Student used 50-80% of the graphic organizer, but some of the final story and the graphic organizer do not match.	The student used less than 50% of the graphic organizer or the final story and the graphic organizer do not match.