

**WRITER'S PORTRAIT ASSIGNMENT**

**Due: Mon. 9/12. Suggested length: 1-2 typed pages, double-spaced in the form of a letter to me, to yourself or to someone else. Be sure to keep a copy for yourself.**

We open the term with a reflection on your experiences-to-date with writing: what has worked for you so far as a writer, what aspects of your writing are satisfying to you versus those which are less so, what you hope to accomplish in this course and so on.

Please write a letter that presents a portrait of you as a writer. The questions below are only intended as a guide. There may be other aspects of your life as a writer that you would like to comment on. During the term you can return to this letter to think about the changes that you may be seeing in yourself as a writer. At the term's end, you will write a similar reflective letter. Don't answer these questions in a list-like fashion! Create an engaging and readable narrative.

SOME QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT:

Do you like to read? Are there any specific authors who have inspired you?

What has your experience in writing or English classes been like?

Do you like to write? Does the experience of writing vary for you with different types of writing (e.g., technical, expository, diary,)? If "yes", say more.

How often do you write (a) for courses/assignments (b) for pleasure (c) for other purposes (e.g. job, student publication)? How often do you wish you wrote?

How would you characterize yourself as a writer (this characterization may differ with specific kinds of writing such as technical writing, poetry, science fiction, etc.)? How do you think others see you as a writer?

Describe your writing process, What "writing rituals" (e.g. place to write, music, etc.) do you have? Do you ask others (friends, family, teachers) for feedback? Do you revise your writing (often, rarely, never)? What aspects of your writing process work well? What aspects would you like to change?

How would you describe yourself as a public speaker? Do oral presentations help your writing—or vice versa?

What are your goals for yourself as a writer this term? What ethical and social issues interest you most?

What do you want to be saying about yourself as a writer at the term's end?