**The Reader’s Bio**

**Your task:** Create a “Reader’s Bio” to take stock of where you’ve been, where you are, and where you want to go in English Language Arts.

Directions:

* Create a 1-2 page narrative essay in which you reflect on ***at least*** ONE question from EACH category.
	+ Use your own authentic voice.
	+ Be honest and genuine and do your best to explain your views and experiences.
	+ Take care to use language with purpose and for effect. That is, bring your A game and show me what you’re working with.

**Reading:**

* How do you feel about reading in general?
* What is the best book you have ever read? Why did you read it? What about it makes it the

“best”?

* What is the worst book you have ever read? Who or what made you decide to read it? What about it makes it the “worst”? Did you ever finish it?
* How many books have you read in the last 12 months? How many were assigned by teachers? How many did you read on your own?
* Do you read for enjoyment? Why or why not?
* What kinds of materials do you like to read?
* Who is your favorite author? Why? If you don't have one, why not? What do you think makes a good author?
* What kind of subject matter do you like to read about in books?
* Do you like to read poetry? Why or why not?
* What newspapers and magazines do you read regularly?
* What topics and features do you choose to read in newspapers and magazines?
* Where and when do you like to read? What are the “ideal” reading conditions for you?
* Do you consider yourself an: excellent / good / fair / poor / reader? Why do you feel this way?
* What things in your life prevent you from reading?
* How does the act of reading differ from watching TV or a movie?

Conceptions of contemporary literature:

* + What components make a good story?
	+ Why is (or is not) studying literature an important thing for a student to learn about?
	+ How do you feel about reading literature written by people of different

ethnicities/backgrounds?

* + How does learning about contemporary literature help students (and society) learn more about themselves?
	+ What contemporary writers would you like to read/study? Why?

**Your writing experiences:**

* What was your most favorite writing assignment that you ever completed? Describe it and explain why you liked it.
* What was the writing assignment that you least liked? What was it like? Why didn’t you like it?
* What word processing programs do you know? What is your favorite? Why?
* What was your most difficult writing experience like?
* What was your easiest writing experience like?
* Finish the thought behind these two sentences:

Generally, in a good writing experience I feel/do/think . . .

Generally, in a bad writing experience I feel/do/think . . .

* How do you write your compositions? Do you take a long time to carefully plan, draft, and revise your writing? Do you procrastinate to the last minute and then rush the composition out in one sitting? If you procrastinate, why do you think you do?

**Your motivations and goals:**

* Why did you sign up for this course?
* What have you heard about the course from siblings/friends who have already taken it?
* What goals would you set for yourself for this course? How could you accomplish those goals?
* What kinds of activities would you like to complete in this course?
* What do you hope to learn in this course?
* How do you feel about doing creative projects on computer?
* How do you best learn?

**About yourself:**

* What positive qualities about your personality do you bring to this class?
* What negative qualities about your personality do you bring to this class? How can you overcome these flaws?
* What sort of activities are you involved in?
* What is your family like? Tell me a little about your family.
* Do you have a job? How many hours a week do you work?
* How do you see using language arts skills in your future as a student? In a future career?
* What are your long-term education and career goals? How can this course help you with these?
* What is your favorite thing about school? Why?
* What is your least favorite thing about school? Why?
* Who or what is the most important thing in your life?
* What other courses are you taking this semester? How will they benefit from this course?

How might they detract from your success in this course?

* What writing capabilities do you have at home (word processor, computer, etc.)?
* Where do you prefer to complete your homework? Here at school in study hall? At home? Why?
* What else do you think I should know about you?