Short Story Creative Writing Assignment

Stories are unfolding around us each day. We have real stories (nonfiction)and imaginative stories (fiction) that enrich our lives. You are going to write a short story using the elements that we have studied so far in class.

Your Task:

* Choose to write a nonfiction or fiction story. Either choice you make will include all of the elements of a story.
* Write your ideas on the plot diagram provided before you start. It is important to have an idea of where you are going before you begin.
* Write a rough draft of your story on lined paper. Write the story every other line so you can make corrections.
* If you are stuck getting started, then use the Murdoch Mysteries pictures to help trigger an idea.

As we have discussed in class, short story writing is about choosing your words and ideas carefully. You will need to be careful to plan and edit your story inject as much meaning as possible into a short piece of writing. You will need to **include**:

* Character development
* Setting
* Symbol
* Theme
* Plot
* Conflict
* Imagery
* Figurative language (5) (ex. metaphor, alliteration, onomatopoeia, personification)

Details:

* 300-500 words
* Give it a great title!
* Typed, double-spaced, 12 pt. Arial font, with 1” margins
* Your name, my name, the course and date on the top left-hand corner
* Submit your plot diagram, rough copies, check list and final draft of your story

Self-Editing Checklist – Name of Author: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | N Y | A | FM | E |
| Great title! (Related to story in some way) |  |  |  |  |
| Engaging opening sentence (Hook) |  |  |  |  |
| Story draws you in and encourages you to read more |  |  |  |  |
| Vividly described setting (Imagery) |  |  |  |  |
| Clear, logical plot |  |  |  |  |
| Characters are clearly defined (STEAL) |  |  |  |  |
| 3 examples of dialog (quotation marks) |  |  |  |  |
| Clever integration of theme (universal message) |  |  |  |  |
| Good ending (Resolves conflict) |  |  |  |  |
| Loose ends are ‘tied up’ |  |  |  |  |
| Use of at least 1 symbol |  |  |  |  |
| Use of at least 5 literary devices (metaphor, alliteration, etc.) |  |  |  |  |
| 300-500 words, double space, 12 pt. font, Arial font |  |  |  |  |
| Perfect spelling |  |  |  |  |
| Style – good flow, combination of long and short sentences, no awkward phrasing |  |  |  |  |
| Impeccable grammar |  |  |  |  |

Peer Editing Checklist – Name of Editor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Comments: