

SPEED WRITES

English 9 - Term 2 (2023-24)

Sample Completed Work

Weeks 1-3

Jan 30 to Feb 14, 2024

#	Date	Prompt	Self-Mark
1	Jan 30 or Feb 1	True love is real and wonderful because... (or It's fake and stupid b/c...)	C
2	Jan 31	Which is more important? Character, intelligence, happiness, or strength? Why?	C
3	Feb 2	What's a common theme (big idea) that connects <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> with <i>Outsiders</i> ?	C
4	Feb 5	Why did Mr. Kertes write the essay in Grade 8? How did it help transform him?	C
5	Feb 6 or Feb 8	Why did William Shakespeare write plays? Are those good reasons in your view? What makes him so famous and why do teachers still use his plays in class?	C
6	Feb 7	Describe the professor in <i>One Good Man</i> ... what did you think of him? Why?	C
7	Feb 9	Discuss the rights of women in the time of Shakespeare... try to connect/reflect...	C
8	Feb 12	Which is the best story: <i>The Laundry Basket</i> , <i>Haida Gwaii</i> , or <i>The Promise</i> ? Why?	C
9	Feb 14	Tell me your thoughts on the poem <i>Stop All the Clocks</i> ? It's one of my favourites...	C
10	Feb 20 or Feb 22	Mr. Kertes will censor some scenes from the film today. He explained why. What do you think of his decision to do this? Is this respectful to you? Why or why not?	
11	Feb 21	What's the purpose of writing an essay? (The <i>real</i> purpose, in your view.)	
12	Feb 23	Which movie was your favourite (of the three)? Why? Least favourite? Why? Tie?	
13	Feb 26	So how about that top level of analysis... Metacognition... useful? Not? Why?	
14	Feb 27 or Feb 29	Today's class is half a day focused on theories of narrative. Theories explain how or why... so a theory of narrative explains how or why stories are stories. Discuss this.	
15	Feb 28	Today's a workday to write your expository essay. So... what's your big idea? Why?	
16	Mar 1	After half a day focused on theory on Tu or Th, what do you think? Theory is...	
17	Mar 4	Theory is systematic thought. Explain what this means to you... be specific...	
18	Mar 5 or Mar 7	Did you finish your expository essay on time? If so, what made you do it? (Describe the process.) If not, what is your plan for getting it done ASAP?	
19	Mar 6	Think over the poems you have read so far... which are your favourites? Why?	
20	Mar 8	What did you learn by writing the poetry reflection report? Does this matter? Why?	
21	Apr 2 or Apr 4	Refresh your memory a bit. What were the themes of the first three films? What is the theme of the novel <i>The Outsiders</i> ? How does this all connect around an idea?	
22	Apr 3	The point of writing an essay is to think and make your thinking visible. Why do it?	
23	Apr 5	Which of the four films is your favourite? Why? How do they all connect? Why?	
24	Apr 8	If writing is a system, then: What are the inputs? Outputs? What's its function?	
25	Apr 9 or Apr 11	Is Thomas King right? Is story "all that we are"? How about Maracle? What are her views on theory of narrative? Do you agree with her? Is narrative life and death?	
26	Apr 10	Do pop stars and/or rap stars sit around think about theory? Do their managers?	
27	Apr 12	Connect or reflect or describe or explain the story that Mr. Kertes shared on Wed?	
28	Apr 15	What's up with all these stories? Is there a point to all this sharing? Why? Why not?	
29	Apr 17	Do you have any questions or requests as we prepare for <i>Measure for Measure</i> ?	
30	Apr 23 or Apr 25	Harriet Jacobs asked a question in the reading from last week. Mr. Kertes read this question at his wedding. Why did she ask this? Why did Mr. Kertes read it as the wedding? And... what is your answer to the question?	
31	Apr 24	Describe connections between <i>All Is True</i> , <i>R&J</i> , and <i>Shakespeare in Love</i> to <i>M4M</i> .	
32	Apr 26	Remember: <i>Stop All the Clocks</i> . Dead. Sad. Think about <i>M4M</i> justice. Good? Bad?	
33	Apr 29	The next set of short stories are heavy... and yet the novels are not. Reflect on this?	
34	Apr 30 or May 2	We read two essays on Monday. One asked: Is philosophy literature? But first, what is literature? How is it different from plan old stories? Answer both Qs if you can.	
35	May 1	Think globally. Think deeply. Think about <i>M4M</i> . Have things changed since then?	
36	May 3	Narrative (fancy word for story) (aka literature) is a system, right? Why? How?	
37	May 6	So far... what author tickled your fancy the most? Why?	



Tyler Robinson
English 9 (2)
2-1

SW#1 - True love...

True love is real and wonderful. I know this because I have been in love and it was true and wonderful, even though in the end it did not work out.

The guy I ~~felt~~ fell in love with was new to my school. He was shy and didn't have many friends. But when you got to know him he was really funny.

I think he may have loved me

too but we never talked
about it. He only went to
my school for about 6 months,
then his mom moved. We
stay in touch but I do
wonder if he loves me back.
We are good friends though.



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English 9 (2)
1-31

SW#2 - what matters...

I think happiness matters
and to be happy requires being
a good person. So I guess
that character matters most. But
I don't exactly know what that
really means. Like being good?
or being kind? I think it's
easier to be good and kind
and happy. But sometimes being
an asshole makes me happy.
so maybe that's all that matters?



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English 9 (2)
2-2

SW# 3 - Common theme

Romeo and Juliet and The Outsiders are both about good friendships and how these matter most of all. Both stories have gangs and violence and are the same in this way - and both are sad at the end. But what makes the stories connected the most is how friendship holds people together.

You might think that Romeo and Juliet is all about the two lovers.

But it's really about how
Benvolio is always there for Romeo,
Benvolio is one of those
friends that cares but doesn't
make ~~it~~ this a big deal.

I have friends like that
and this is really good to
have. Just hanging out... being
yourself. I wish more stories
had this. But then... where
is the drama in that?

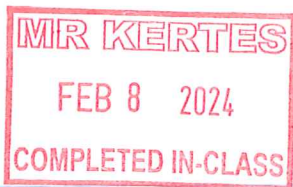


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2-5

SW # 4 - Mr. Kertes's transformation...

Mr. Kertes wanted to be a writer so he entered the contest. What he didn't expect was how the contest would change him. He didn't know much about Martin Luther King before. Then he wrote the essay. He was moved by the courage and love of the movement. Mr. Kertes decided to follow in Martin Luther King's foot steps.

Mr. Kertes did a bad job of this at first. From his stories he sounds like he was a mess back then. But later he learned from mentors like Willie Baptist who taught Mr. Kertes how to turn action into love. Mr. Kertes learned to help organize a community to work together and improve their lives. So the essay helped transform Mr. Kertes a lot.



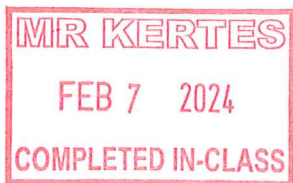
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2-8

SW#5 - why did Shakespeare write?

Shakespeare wrote to make money (get rich), be famous (prove himself), and show off (be considered brilliant). He was the Taylor Swift of his day. He wanted to bring in the crowds and doing this required writing plays with love, violence, scandal, and heart ache.

I guess these are good reasons. It is interesting that Shakespeare was a lot like a

YouTuber of today — just trying
to make a buck by getting people's
attention. But at least it
worked — because all Western
entertainment is modelled off
Shakespeare and I like block
busters like Star Wars, Dune,
and Barbie — all thanks to ideas
made up by William Shakespeare!



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2-7

JW#6 - prof in "One Good Man" ...

MR KERTES
FEB 9 2024
COMPLETED IN-CLASS

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2-9

SW# 7 - Rights of Women in England...



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2-12

SW#8 - Best story...

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English 9 (2)
2-14

SW# 9 - Stop all the clocks...

