**Autobiography Project for Language Arts**

For this project, you will write your autobiography. You should consider how who you are is shaped by many influences, like family and friends, your experiences, and the world around you. Factors like your beliefs, religious and other beliefs, cultural background, role models, major achievements, or challenges you have faced in your life may be important to who you are. Which influences in your life have most shaped who you are?

 All projects will be typed unless you have cleared it with me in advance that you do not have access to a computer. Your project will be 3-4 pages typed. You must use black ink, #12 font size, double space, standard margins, and clear print font (like “Times New Roman”). Students who are not able to type their projects (Again, this must be cleared with me in advance.) will write 6-8 pages skipping lines.

Due Dates:

* The outline is due on September 11th. (The outline will also be typed.)
* You will bring a complete ( 3-4 pages) typed rough draft to class on Oct. 14th.
* The final copy is due on Oct. 17th.

Directions for the outline:

* For each paragraph, write a topic sentence. (No fragments!) Use numbers to indicate each separate paragraph.
* **List** the separate subjects of your paragraph. (Do not use complete sentences.) Use letters to indicate the subjects within the paragraph.
* Your project should follow the order of your outline.
* Your outline should be short and concise and fit on 1 page.
* See the sample outline on the back of this page.

Some **Suggestions**:

* Everyone will have one paragraph that tells when and where they were born and some information about their family. (This should come first.)
* You can talk about sports, hobbies, and other activities.
* You can talk about places you have traveled to.
* You could mention any major life incidents like hospital stays or surgery.
* You can talk about things you are proud of that you accomplished.
* You can talk about any special interests you have.
* You could talk about your plans for the future. (This should logically come last.)

There are numerous other topics that one could write on. The above topics are only suggestions.

**Autobiography Outline (Sample)**

1. I was born on April 9th, 1997, as the second child to two wonderful parents.
	1. My birth
	2. My sister
	3. My parents
	4. Information about my family
2. I have traveled to many different places in my life.
	1. Cross country USA
	2. Europe
	3. Canada
	4. Jamaica
3. I have a few hobbies that I enjoy in my free time.
	1. Drawing
	2. Music
	3. Model Trains
4. Sports are a big part of my life, and I play a variety of sports throughout the year.
	1. Soccer
	2. Basketball
	3. Baseball
	4. Football
5. I have had two operations on my eyes.
	1. Reason for surgery
	2. 1st surgery
	3. 2nd surgery
6. I have many plans for my future.
	1. School for the Arts
	2. College
	3. Career goals

Each of the numbers represents a separate paragraph in your autobiography. Each of the letters represents subjects you will talk about within that paragraph. The outline is a road map for your writing, but it does not mean that your final copy needs to be exactly like the outline. It should be very close to the outline, but it might be that as you are writing you decide to add something in one paragraph or change the order of topics in a paragraph.

While there are several ways to outline a paper, I expect all outlines in this format.