

NCAA Addendum

NCAA has new regulations requiring that students show work and assessment done outside of the textbook as they believe that this will best mirror a formal school setting. Because of this new requirement, it is important that all students be able to show work completed beyond the textbook for each major course. Throughout the year, students should complete activities, writing assignments, projects, etc. that show creativity and mastery. Your Instructor Guide includes many such activities. Please choose activities meeting the following criteria that best suit your child's gifts, interests, and abilities.

I. Writing Assignments

Students should complete a minimum of 4 writing assignments per year. Choose from the following types of assignments within your Instructor Guide.

- **Expository Writing: Requirement: 1000 words, font size 12, 1.5 spaced**

Expository writing provides an explanation of an event, concept, etc. Expository essays seek to “expose” or explain your understanding of a topic. Often you will find the words analyze, interpret, discuss, evaluate, or explain within the essay question. This is a clue that you will be writing an expository essay. Expository writing will most likely be in essay form.

- **Descriptive/ Narrative Writing: Requirements: 1000 words, Font Size 12, 1.5 Spaced**

Descriptive writing strives to create a deeply involved and vivid experience for the reader. You are often telling a story, or narrative. Great descriptive essays achieve this affect not through facts and statistics but by using detailed observations and descriptions. Often, a descriptive essay will focus on portraying one of the following: **a person, a place, a memory, an experience or an object.** Ultimately, whatever you can *perceive* or *experience* can be the focus of your descriptive writing. Descriptive writing can come in the form of a story, essay, or speech.

- **Persuasive Writing: Requirements: 1500 words, Font Size 12, 1.5 Spaced**

Persuasion is the art of changing someone's mind regarding a specific issue or concept. The main purpose of persuasive texts is to present an argument or an opinion in an attempt to convince the reader to accept the writer's point of view. Persuasive writing could come in the form of an essay or speech.

- **Research or Book Report: 1500 words, Font Size 12, 1.5 Spaced**

A research assignment is a formal report that contains an original thesis or idea and evidence to support this main point. In writing a research paper, you will choose a topic, find information regarding this topic, create a specific point of view or idea in a thesis statement, create an outline, use your research to support your thesis, draft the essay, then proof read and edit your final report. A research report should be an in depth project that takes days or weeks to complete.

- **Creative Writing: No Specific Requirement**

Creative writing is anything where the purpose is to express thoughts, feelings and emotions rather than to simply convey information. Creative writing can come in many forms including poetry, short story, novella, play, biography, limerick and haiku.

- **Laboratory Reports: Use Lab Report Format**

Lab reports are written to describe and analyze a laboratory experiment that explores a specific scientific concept. All lab experiments should be completed using the scientific method. Lab reports should include all of the following elements: Title, Introduction/Purpose, Materials, Method, Data, Results, Discussion/ Analysis, Conclusions, and Images/Graphs.

Writing Assignment Examples

1. Expository Essay: Write a 4-6 paragraph essay explaining how the author uses setting to create a specific mood and tone within the short story.
2. Research Essay Assignment: Research a specific battle in the Civil War. Write a research paper discussing the following elements: the setting, the major players, the major events, and the outcome of the battle. Be sure to create an outline and cite your sources of information!
3. Creative Writing Assignment: Pretend you are a Jonas Salk. Write a letter to a scientist friend explaining how you discovered and created the vaccine for polio. Use concrete facts and dates to support your story.

II. Project Assignments

Your Bridgeway Instructor Guide and textbook Teacher's Guide will include many different activities that will help you to fulfill the NCAA requirement. **You are required to complete no less than 4 outside projects per course per year.** Examples of projects that show understanding include:

- Timeline
- Research projects
- Lab experiments with lab reports
- Worksheets

- Multi-media presentation
- Graph
- Brochure
- Collage
- Journal Entries
- Editorial
- Comic Strip (with explanation)
- Political Cartoon (with explanation)
- Artwork (with explanation)
- Scrapbooks

Project Examples

1. Compare and Contrast Project: Compare and contrast Descartes' rationalism and Francis Bacon's empiricism using a Venn Diagram. Log onto the web site below and print out the Venn Diagram.
http://www.educationworld.com/tools_templates/venn_diagram2.doc
2. Art Integration Project: Draw a picture or cartoon using fractions. Then, write a math problem whose answer can be found by studying the picture.
3. Journal Entry: Respond to this statement: "Though experiencing God may correlate with brain activity, it does not disprove or diminish the experience."
4. History Project: Research a person whom you studied in the last chapter using the internet and other sources. Create a biographical timeline with 30 of the most important events in this person's life. Make sure to include 5 pictures and to cite your sources!