

## ELN101: Introduction to Bilingualism Post-lecture Assignment (PLA) 1 (Autobiographical Reflection on Language)

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For this Post-lecture Assignment (PLA), write a short autobiographical reflection (1 page max; about 250-500 words) on your language(s).

This assignment will be your first draft of your e-Portfolio entry, which collectively accounts for 5% of your final grade. The purpose of this assignment is to brainstorm and develop topics of your autobiography entry. You will be rewarded for the process of thinking, rather than for the end product itself – that is, writing that lets you “think out loud on paper (or computer)” without having to worry whether your writing is effective for readers. In other words, you should focus on your ideas rather than the accuracy of grammar, spelling, and writing style and format. As long as it is legible, you will not be penalized for any error in writing.

In this assignment, you will be graded solely on quality of your topic(s). More specifically, you will be graded on depth of your thinking, uniqueness of your topic(s), and relevance of your topic(s) to the reading assignments and class discussion.

Below are a few questions that will guide you writing your first autobiography. Ask these questions to yourself and start your writing.

- (1) What is your language background? What language(s) do you speak, read, write, and understand? Is the language you speak in school the same language you speak at home, at work, or with your friends?
- (2) Reflect on your own language background on the notion of the U.S. as *Linguistic Graveyard* that we discussed in class. What language(s) do your parents speak? How about your grandparents? Your children and grandchildren?
- (3) Reflect on how you learned your language(s). Did you make conscious effort to acquire or maintain your language(s)? What do you still wonder about language learning and/or multilingualism?

Submit your essay through Blackboard. You should be able to submit your Word (or any word-processing) document by clicking on Week01 Post-lecture Activity (PLA).