

# Bringing it all Together

Emblematic Essay:  
Drafting Your Essay



# Where We're At

By now you have

- explored the details of your topic,
- developed a narrative to support your point, and
- examined why your object is important

Now it's time to decide how to bring all of these ideas together in an essay.





# Some Options

## Chronological Narrative + Discussion of Significance

Here you give your narrative description, then end it with your explanation of why it's important. Basically putting Prewriting 2 and 3 together.

“The Sound of My Rose” and  
“Threads of Sunshine”

## Starting the Narrative in the middle or end Introducing significance Returning to the story and finishing it +Concluding Significance

In this way you get your reader to ask, “humm, I wonder how that happened?” Then you discuss some of the meaning and go back to the beginning of the story to fill in the holes.

‘Just Like My Papi Guero,’ and “Connecting with History”

## Move back and forth between past and present stories + Interweave significance as you do

This creates a connection between your present and your past, and can develop a more real-time feel.

“Seasoning a Bond”



# Time to Think About Others

This is the point in the writing process when you stop focusing on what you're saying, and focus on how you're saying it.

- ◆ How will it communicate with your audience?
- ◆ How will it effect them as they read it?
- ◆ What kind of impression does it create? (Grammar!)



# Develop your draft

- Review the grading criteria in the essay assignment before you begin your draft
- Choose a method of organizing that best helps engage your audience and get your point across
- Do not use big words unless they're the right ones. Write in your voice and use the first person I/me/my. Do not use *you*.
- Proofread a print copy out loud!
- Have your draft ready for workshop.





Remember:

You don't have to be great to get started,  
but you do have to get started to be great.  
--Les Brown

(And you've already started!)



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