

## Handout 7.1. Final Portfolios

### Assembling Your Portfolio

**Purpose:** Each of you has written a huge amount this year. Now is your chance to pull it together to show yourself and me what you can do. The key to a strong portfolio is exhibiting effort, dedication, and personality. Your portfolios will all be different based on who each of you is . . . from “loud” to “quiet,” “artsy” to “scientific.” . . . Make your work **you**.

**Format:** With all of the technology savvy you have developed this year, you will be creating a digital portfolio. You will compile your work, organize and hyper-link it, burn it to a CD, and design the overall presentation. The only exceptions to this are items we did with that old-time pencil and paper thing! Those you can creatively include with your CD container.

### Minimum Required Items:

1. A “container” for your CD: Show me you! Use words, pictures, drawings, . . . on a folder, jewel case, box. . . .
2. Letter to Me, Your Teacher: More about this in the coming days.
3. **Rewritten** Work: You will select two key excerpts from papers you have written for English class to rewrite to show your mastery of our year of writing skills. You must include both the original section and the rewritten section to show evidence of your growth and revision. These rewritten pieces will be graded for both style and mechanics.
  - A rewritten excerpt from a creative piece that shows your mastery of the genre’s style techniques as well as excellent grammar
  - A rewritten excerpt from an expository piece that shows your mastery of crafting a thorough argument with textual examples as well as excellent grammar
4. Reflection on Rewritten Work: Once you have rewritten your selected excerpts and have the original and rewritten pieces together, explain the writing growth these pieces show. Use Word comments to elaborate on . . .
  - The major revisions you completed and why you completed them
  - Four examples (for a total of eight between both excerpts) of correct grammar and what is correct about each of them
  - In a final Word comment on each excerpt, explain what you like best about this rewritten section and what overall you learned about yourself as a writer as you rewrote it.

- \*5. Your favorite piece with any drafts.
- \*6. At least 13 other pieces (for a total of 15 with your rewritten and favorite pieces):
  - 1 additional piece with drafts
  - 3 examples of in-class work (in-class essays, notes, tests . . .)
  - 2 original poems
  - 3 reading responses
  - What you include beyond these is up to you. Choose work you enjoyed to show your interests, work you hated to show your dislikes, work you struggled on to show your weaknesses, work you breezed through to show your strengths, work you took time on to show your efforts. . . .

\* These items are not rewritten—they should be in the form they were when you first finished them. You will include the documents with my comments and/or scan in the actual papers complete with cross-outs, mistakes, and my scribbling!