
Portfolio Activity 2

This activity will help you answer the essential question:

- How do I distinguish a “showcase portfolio” from a “working portfolio”?
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Activity 2

You may complete this activity individually or in groups.

Activity 2: Review the handout, "Creative Writing Overview" below. In what ways does the overview describe a "working portfolio"? In what ways does the overview describe a "showcase portfolio"?

Creative Writing Portfolio Overview

What it is: The Writing Portfolio is a collection of all the pieces which the writer has brought to publication in the order of their production during the last five weeks. Each project is represented through successive drafts, with the first draft on the bottom and the final draft (designated with the publication symbol and the date) on the top.

Why: The Writing Portfolio establishes the evidence for the author to claim copyright on the work. The portfolio contains representative samples of a variety of genres: personal and objective essays, illustrated writing, poetry, and short story. These samples offer prospective publishers an opportunity to develop a perspective on the writer's craft. The portfolio provides the instructors with evidence for the final evaluation. Finally, the portfolio allows the writer to view and own the body of work as a whole and to offer an evaluation of how it has developed and where it is likely to grow in the future.

How it is assembled: Writers should use a three-ring binder or other suitable container for their portfolios. The container may be decorated any way the writer wishes but should be professional in appearance and organization.

1. The first page: should be labeled “Writing Portfolio” with the writer's name, address, and phone number—all centered at the top.
2. Below that, left justified, should be a list of the Projects from Project 1 through Project 9, with the name of the project and the author's title of the project listed next to the project number. The date of publication (not necessarily the “due date”) should follow the project title. The date of the publication is the date your teacher-publisher has indicated on the last draft. Refer to the “GCB Creative Writing Project and Publication Schedule Log” for a list of projects.
3. Following the project list page should be a double-spaced 2 to 3 page reflection/review of the writing. This reflection piece should address the following:
 - Best piece and why
 - Piece the writer struggled with the most and why
 - Areas in which the writer has noted the most improvement and growth (e.g. journaling, pre-writing, organizing, developing a voice, using more effective word choice, researching, revising, editing, etc.)
 - Areas which need more development
 - The writer's plans for writing in the future (e.g. what aspect or kind of writing and how you plan to go about it).

4. Projects in reverse order (latest project on top) with successive drafts in reverse order (published draft on top of each project). The first project ("Write about how a particular animal, fictional or real, got its name.") should be on the bottom.

Final Evaluation:

For an "A": in addition to the Portfolio, revise 9 pieces until they are marked with the publication symbol and date. Must include Project Piece 9, Reflection Essay.

For a "B": in addition to the Portfolio, revise at least 8 pieces until they are marked with the publication symbol and date. Must include Project Piece 9, Reflection Essay.

For a "C": in addition to the Portfolio, revise 7 pieces until they are marked with the publication symbol and date. Must include Project Piece 9, Reflection Essay.

INC or Withdrawal from College or High School Credit: fewer than 6 pieces marked with the publication symbol and date.

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