

MHSHS

Portfolio

Teacher: Irom/Sperling/DeFeo

Title of Work: My Portfolio

	Criteria				Points
	20	17	14	11	
Overall Organization	All components of portfolio are clear, present, well-organized, and complete.	Most components of portfolio are present, organized, and complete. Might be missing a revision or contain an unsatisfactory reflection.	Fulfills some requirements of the portfolio. Missing two or more components.	Fulfills few if any of the requirements of the portfolio. Missing many / components.	<u>20</u>
Creative Presentation	Fulfills all visual requirements. Portfolio excels in neatness and creativity. Goes above and beyond.	Fulfills most visual requirements. Is neat and creative.	Fulfills some of the visual requirements. May be lacking in neatness or creativity.	Fulfills few if any of the visual requirements. Is messy and/ or lacks in creativity.	<u>17</u>
Reflections	Exhibits an exceptionally honest, candid ability to reflect upon one's self and work in the overall self-reflection, all other reflections and portfolio conference.	Exhibits a basic ability to reflect upon one's self and work in the overall self-reflection, all other reflections and portfolio conference.	Is lacking in some aspects of one or more reflections. Displays an incomplete ability to reflect on one's work in writing or conference.	Is lacking in many aspects of many of the reflections. Does not display an ability to reflect on one's work in writing or conference.	<u>20</u>
Revision Process	Has shown exceptional and thoughtful revisions in every piece of work. All revision drafts are present.	Has shown thoughtful revisions in every piece of work. Most revisions are present.	Has shown revisions in some pieces of work. Some revisions are present.	Has shown insufficient revisions in many pieces of work. Few revisions are present.	<u>20</u>
Mechanics and Grammar	Components have no errors in punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.	Components have one or two punctuation, capitalization, and spelling errors.	Components have several punctuation, capitalization, and spelling errors which do not hinder the ability to comprehend.	Components have several errors in punctuation, capitalization, and spelling which hinder the ability to comprehend.	<u>20</u>
				Total---->	<u>97</u>

Teacher Comments:

Excellent job! You obviously worked very hard on this!

MY PORTFOLIO



Manhattan Community College High School
Date of Submission: June 13, 2005

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June 2, 2005

As a student at Manhattan Hunter Science High School, I have accomplished a lot during this past year. I have also learned a lot. As a student, I feel like I have improved in some classes and struggled in some classes as well. There were subjects that I enjoyed and there were subjects that I could not stand. There were times when I felt that school was too hard and could not go through with this and wanted to give up but I overcame this situation, woke up and started over. Now I am about to end my freshman year. As a student, I met new people and experienced new things in this school.

In humanities, I have learned to write a thematic essay, DBQ essay (document based questions), persuasive essay, explanatory essay, and more. I never knew that there could be so many different kinds of essays. I also read books and stories such as Joy Luck Club during the China unit, and Ramayana during the India unit, Romeo and Juliet, and now I am reading Things Fall Apart during the Africa unit. As a student of English and History, I feel like I learned a lot more than last year. Everyday at the end of class I feel like I am walking out the door with new information and new knowledge that I did not know before. For example, last year I struggled with writing essays but now I can write an essay more quickly and more efficiently than before. I also feel that I learned a lot of history, too. I learned about the Boxer Rebellion in China, the British colonialism in India and Gandhi, and now I learned about the European imperialism in Africa, and their iron technology.

This year, I feel that I improved in writing but I feel that I did not improve in taking class exams and quizzes. My goals for improvement next year is to do all my homework, STUDY a lot when there is a test or exam coming up and don't study at the last minute, do extra credit if there is an opportunity to do it, and most importantly, pay attention in class and take good notes. This is my overall self reflection for this year.

MY PORTFOLIO



Manhattan High School
Date of Submission: June 2, 2006

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Overall Self-Reflection

Time goes by fast when you least expect it. Another year goes by very fast. It seems like yesterday when I first came to the school. Everything seemed so different from what I have imagined. Everything felt new and fresh. I have to admit when I first came here, I was very nervous and anxious. When I compare myself, as a student from last year, there have been many changes and improvements as well. As I observed, there had been changes in school, the students, and myself as a student and as an individual. As each year passes by as I get a year older, I feel like I am leaving and it feels like I am about to enter a new room- a new year. As a student, I must admit that I did not try my hardest. When I don't understand something or if I am struggling with something, I tend to not show it when I should be asking for help and asking questions. I tend to not seek for help but instead I try to figure it out on my own. When I compare myself to last year, I feel like I gained more of something. I feel that I gain more knowledge within every year.

When I first came to Mr. Bristol's class in September I did not know much. I did not expect much either. I thought it was going to be like any other English class in the United States or in the world. However, when I saw the work that Mr. Bristol gave us, I was pretty surprised. I was surprised because I thought Mr. Bristol gave us too much work in the beginning. It was different from what I had expected. At first I thought he expected too much and that got me pretty worried. Now that I think about it, it was all for us. Since I was able to do my work that was given to me, I feel that I have learned

something more from doing each homework assignment. From English class with Mr. Bristol, I have read many interesting work from many writers such as *Candide* by Voltaire, *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde, *Johnny Got His Gun* by Dalton Trumbo, etc. At first I thought these books were going to be boring from their title, and their appearance. However, when I started reading these books, it turns out that these were interesting books to read after all. Also, in English class I was able to improve in writing. I would write in journals that were provided to us by Mr. Bristol and would write about our feelings and write reflections. We would also write an essay on the book we had read. This was good for me because I had an opportunity to write a lot more which was able to make me improve in my writing skills. After many writing, reading, and thinking, I feel proud that I was able to overcome my struggles and be able to move onto the next grade with more knowledge about English and about life.

If I think about it, I feel that I have improved a lot from last year. Last year I learned a lot however, from sophomore year I was able to learn MORE from the materials that I learned from my freshman year. For instance, last year I learned a lot about literary devices but this year I was able to identify literary devices in writing. I was able to have a better understanding of literary devices too. Also, I was able to learn ways to structure an essay and improve my spelling and grammar. Through Mr. Bristol's class I was able to learn new things that was able to make me improve in my weak areas and make me learn something new and benefit from it.

In the future, I am hoping to improve more in English. I want to improve in areas such as writing, doing better in exams, and get higher grades in English class and other classes as well. From last year I think I have improved when it comes to grades. I hope to

improve and get a higher average than what I have right now. In order to do that I will study for each subject, read, write, do my homework and be prepared to learn each day. I will also ask question or ask for help when I need it and not be ashamed of it. I feel that I have benefited many things from English class with Mr. Bristol. I feel that since I was able to survive English class, I can survive through anything. Now I can proudly walk out the door from Mr. Bristol's room learning something new heading to a new room- a new grade. Junior Year.

Full Self-Reflection

It seems like only
yesterday
when

Another year goes by very fast. ~~Yesterday seems like the day when~~ I first came to the school. Everything seemed so different from what I have imagined. Everything felt new. I have to admit when I first came here, I was very nervous. When I compare myself, as a student from last year, there were many changes. As I observed, there had been changes in school, the students, and myself as a student. As each year passes by and each ~~year~~ as I get a year older, I feel like I am leaving and it feels like I am about to enter a new room- a new year. As a student, I must admit that I did not try my hardest. When I don't understand or if I am struggling with something, I tend to not show it when I should be asking for help and asking questions. But when I compare myself to last year, I feel like I gained something. I feel that I gained more knowledge than last year.

When I first came to Mr. Bristol's class in September I did not know much. When I saw the work Mr. Bristol gave us, I was pretty surprised. I was surprised because at first I thought Mr. Bristol gave us too much work. Now that I think about it, it was all for us. Since I was able to do my work that was given to me, I feel that I have learned something more from doing each homework assignment. From English class with Mr. Bristol, I have read many interesting works from many writers such as *Candide* by Voltaire, *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde, *Johnny Got His Gun* by Dalton Trumbo, etc. At first I thought these books were going to be boring from their title, and the way the books looked. However, when I started reading the books, I felt like these were

interesting books to read. Also, in English class I was able to write better. I would write in journals that were provided to us by Mr. Bristol about our feelings and write essays on the book we had read. This was good for me because I had an opportunity to write a lot more which was able to make me improve in writing skills.

If I think about it, I feel that I have improved a lot from last year. Last year I learned a lot however, from sophomore year I was able to learn MORE from the materials that I learned from last year. For instance, last year I learned a lot about literary devices last year but this year I was able to identify literary devices in writing. Also, I was able to learn ways to structure an essay and improve my spelling and grammar. Through Mr. Bristol's class I was able to learn new things that was able to make me improve in my weak areas and make me learn something new.

In the future, I am hoping to improve more in English class. I want to improve in areas such as writing, doing better in exams, and get higher grades in English class and other classes as well. From last year I think I have improved when it comes to grades. I hope to improve and get a higher average than what I have right now. In order to do that I will study for each subject, read, write, do my homework and be prepared to learn each day.

(1) Use more examples of what we did in class to support your improvement in skills

(2)

elaborate.

Portfolio Piece Reflection Requirements (Part 1)

The piece that I am using for Part 1 is my essay that I wrote called Book of Travel. This assignment was given to us towards the end of March after reading *A Christmas Carol* and *Candide*. The original assignment for this piece was to write an essay based on the quote "The right good book is always a book of travel; it is about a life's journey". Also, we had to use examples from *Candide*, and *A Christmas Carol* to support the quote.

I chose this writing piece for several of reasons. One of the reasons why I chose this essay was because I felt satisfied with my final piece after many revisions by my teacher and classmates. It is pretty rare for me to be satisfied with my work because usually I would feel like I did bad or I would usually run out of things to write about in my essay however, as I was writing this paper, I felt like I could write so much more however there was a limit to how much we could write. Also, as I was writing this essay, I could feel some many ideas coming to me about what to write about. Usually in other essays I would kind of run out of things to talk about but for this particular essay, there were many things to say.

As I was writing this essay, I felt that I have grown as a writer and as a student in English. In the beginning I did not really know how to structure an essay very well, however through this class I was able to learn and benefit a lot from this class. I was able to structure my essay and write a better essay. That is why I feel that I did better on this

essay. I was able to see the difference in my writing from the beginning of the year to now by reading this essay.

If I were to re-write this essay, I probably would have done some a couple of things differently. For example, I probably would have provided more examples from the texts to back up my opinion and support the topic of the essay. But from re-reading my final essay several of time, I am quite satisfied with how I wrote my essay turned out.

Essential Question: How did the One Child Policy affect China?

Right now it is estimated that there are more than 1.3 billion people in China. China has the largest population in the whole world. Because of its large population rate, there have been many problems in China: food shortage, traffic within the country, chaos within the people, and not enough job opportunities for people. To fix these problems, the One Child Policy has been placed. The One Child Policy has played a major role in China. The One Child Policy was able to have many effects in China.

The One Child Policy was first started in China. It was first created by a man named Deng Xiaoping. When China was under hardship, they needed someone to change things around in China. That is when a leader named Deng Xiaoping stepped up. He wanted to change things around for China. He was considered one of the most powerful leaders in China. He had ruled China since 1949. Even though Deng Xiaoping was a long time communist, he supported moderate economic policies. He wanted to improve China's economy and modernize China. His goals were known as the Four Modernizations, which were improvements in agriculture, industry, defense and science and technology.

One of his steps in leading China to a better economy was by creating the One Child Policy. The purpose of the One Child Policy was to lower the birthrate in China. The One Child Policy was first mentioned in 1979 in one of Deng Xiaoping's speech. The policy was placed nationwide in 1981. When the policy has been promoted, it had

not been enforced everywhere. The policy was only in places where there have been a high number of birthrates. The One Child Policy varies from location to location.

The One Child Policy has impacted China a lot. It changed many rules in China. After Deng Xiaoping came to power, the country faced many changes due to communism. Some people believed that the One Child Policy would change China for the better and it would improve the country however some did not approve of it.

In China, there had been many people who did not accept the One Child Policy. “The One Child Policy was resented by the people of China which led to a more forceful measures of the Chinese government”. (Unknown, pg 1). Many Chinese people had refused the One Child Policy. After the policy had been promoted, it caused chaos and commotions within the country. This caused the government to be more forceful towards the people of China. Many people had refused to follow the policy however; there were many who accepted the policy as well. Those who did not follow the policy and had more than one child must pay a fine.

“Eugenic laws in China fall largely on two groups; peasants and ethnic minorities” (Unknown, pg 2). China’s population is made up of two groups, which are peasants and others. In China, peasants make up to 70 percent of the population. If the One Child Policy forces people to pay a fine for having more than one child, this will affect the peasants badly because many of the peasants in China do not have jobs so they do not have money to pay their fines.

“No women was to be allowed to bear a second child within four years of her first, and the third child were strictly forbidden” (Mosher, pg vii). In some cases, some women were allowed to have more than one child however couples were not allowed to

have more than two. No couples were allowed to have a third child. After the second child, the couples of China must pay a fine.

Not everyone in China was able to have children because of the One Child Policy. After the policy was placed, it affected some people because some couples were not able to have children at all. If they did not have a permit, they were not allowed to have children. "Newly married couples who are expecting a child must show their planned birth certificate. If they are unable to produce a permit, they will have to undergo birth control measures such as abortions and followed by rub insertions" (Mosher, pg viii).

The One Child Policy had a huge effect on China. The policy created many problems in the country. "Finally, the One Child Policy and the successful resistance to it should give pause to claims made in western nations that there are up to 500,000 missing girls in China" (Unknown, pg 1). Since the couples in China were to have only have one child, it created favoritism for sons. The favoritism for sons led to many people abandoning infant girls because many people in China wanted a son. If people refused to have only one child and wanted to have more, they would have to pay a fine.

The One Child Policy also affected China because since couples could not have more than one child and did not want to pay a fine, many women would take fertility treatment so that they could not have any more babies. "In the mid-80's, according to the Chinese government statistics, birth control surgeries-abortion, sterilization, and rub insertions were averaging more than 30 million a year" (Mosher, pg viii). This led to many women in China to use medicine and treatment and surgeries to prevent themselves from having more children, which was bad to their health.

“Although designated a temporary measure, it continues a quarter-century after its establishments” (Rosenberg, pg 1). When the One Child Policy was first announced, it was not made to be permanent however since it had been successful at lowering the birthrate in China, it still has been in place for a quarter of a century since it has first been established.

“For the last 25 years China has sought to curb the growth of its last population by restricting many couples to having just one child however, exceptions are made in the cases of multiple birth such as twins” (Unknown, pg 3). Even after the One Child Policy was permitted, there were some exceptions to this case. The One Child Policy was made to decrease the number of birthrates and lower the population of China, so the couples of China were told to have only ONE child however; twins and triplets are an exception. It has been known that many women in China want to have a lot of children so there were times when a women would give birth to numerous amount of kids by having twins or triplets to avoid paying a fine. “One hospital has reportedly seen many number of women giving birth to twins or triplets in recent years” (Unknown, pg 4).

“China had the One Child Policy in 1970 and it has been successful at slowing the birthrate” (Unknown, pg 3). Even though it was told that the main purpose for the One Child Policy was to decrease the amount of birthrates in China, there had been other reasons as well. This policy was also created to reduce birth defects as well. IF a baby is born then one of the parents will have to stop working to take care of the child and since raising a child cost a lot of money, it can be difficult for people who have to raise a kid at home. The amount of money used on a child is about a third of an average workers

salary. China also believes that the One Child Policy can reduce problems within families as well.

Even after a quarter of a century after it has been established, China is planning to continue the One Child Policy till 2010. "China has proclaimed that it will continue its One Child Policy, which limits couples to having one child throughout the years 2006-2010" (Rosenberg, pg 2). Despite all the affect it had on China like the surgeries, the treatment, and the illegal acts, China is still planning to continue what it has been doing to decrease the number of birthrates.

In conclusion, the One Child Policy has been successful at decreasing the number of birthrates in China however; there have been other problems behind it. The One Child Policy led to many women taking medicine to help them become pregnant because they want more children, some women take surgeries to avoid having children because of the policy, and some women even abandon their own child if there baby happens to be a daughter because the people in China prefer sons over daughters. I predict that the One Child Policy would lower the birthrate however it would not be able to lower the population of China by a lot. I think there are were other ways to modernize China and improve their economy such as more trading with other countries or invention of products etc. Right now, China is known to have the largest population in the world with 1.3 billion people. If the One Child Policy never existed, how many would be in China?

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Mr. Bristol
Final Essay

Books of Travel

“The right good book is always a book of travel; it is about a life’s journey”. A good book deals with a life’s journey because throughout the journey, characters face obstacles and go through phases where they change as well. A book can always bring excitement and makes readers curious. *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens and *Candide* by Voltaire are similar and different. One similarity is that both books deal with a life’s journey. One difference is that both books go on a different type of journey. The main characters in both books go on a journey in which they change.

A Christmas Carol is a story about a businessman named Scrooge who is a “squeezing, wrenching, grasping, clutching, covetous old sinner” who hates Christmas (pg 3). People dislike Scrooge because of his disposition. However, throughout the book, Scrooge encounters three ghost who show him his Christmas Past, Christmas Present, and Christmas Yet to Come. These three spirits take Scrooge on a journey with plans to show him what Christmas is really about which changes Scrooge’s attitude towards Christmas and changes his ways about life.

In *A Christmas Carol*, the three spirits take Scrooge on a journey. The ghost of Christmas Past shows Scrooge the Christmas he had which Scrooge did not want to see anymore because it horrified him. The ghost of Christmas Present showed Scrooge how Scrooge’s Christmas looked right now. The ghost shows Scrooge how happy other people are without all the money and greed. From seeing this, Scrooge starts to act

differently. At last, when the last spirit, Christmas Yet to Come, showed Scrooge his Christmas future, Scrooge was in shock and wanted to change right away. In Scrooge's Christmas Yet to Come, it showed Scrooge as a dead person without people caring for him but only pitying him. "Good Spirit, your nature intercedes for me, and pities me. Assure me that I yet may change these shadows you have shown me, by an altered life" said Scrooge. This journey changed Scrooge because it made Scrooge realize how happy people are during Christmas even those who are more unfortunate than he is and what kind of person he had been to others. I support this quote because in the beginning Scrooge was a greedy, old, rude businessman who hated Christmas but now Scrooge is a kind, caring, businessman who honors Christmas with his heart. From a life's journey, a character in a book changes. *A Christmas Carol* shows us that Scrooge had changed from the beginning of the book to the end.

Candide is a story about a young man named Candide. Candide is a character that is always curious and believes in the theories that his teacher, Master Pangloss, teaches him. For example, "It is demonstrable that things cannot be otherwise than they are; for as all things have been created for some end, they must necessarily be created for the best end" (pg 12). Candide believes everything that Master Pangloss tells him even if it is the most unbelievable theory ever. Candide is very gullible and cannot do anything for himself. Candide believes in Master Pangloss's theories because Master Pangloss has been with him for a long time. However, because of Master Pangloss's theories, Candide gets kicked out of the castle for being caught kissing his cousin, Cunegonde, because of Pangloss's theory that "everything was created for the best". These two people believed that they were created to love each other. From being kicked out of the castle, Candide

begins his life journey. From the journey that Candide takes, he learns about life, and begins to discover his true self and begins to understand the world better.

In *Candide*, Candide learns much from his journey. After encountering many people and many obstacles, he changes. From his journey, Candide had faced hardship from all the beating and walking he had done. In the beginning of his journey, he was with Master Pangloss however Master Pangloss died in the middle of the journey. Candide continues his journey even from all the hardship he had faced and by himself. "You are perfectly right, for when man was put into the Garden of Eden, he was put there ut operaretur eum, so that he should work it; this proves that man was not born to take his ease said Pangloss". This made Candide continue his journey by himself even without Pangloss. Candide is a very lucky person because whenever he was about to face a tragedy or something difficult, something would always save him. Throughout his journey, Candide was hoping to meet Cunegonde, the love of his life. As he goes on his journey, Candide develops a stronger feeling for Cunegonde because of the times they were separated. Eventually Candide was able to reunite with the Baron (Cunegonde's brother), Master Pangloss, and Cunegonde. From this life journey that Candide takes, Candide was able to change. In the beginning Candide was gullible and was not able to think for himself but towards the end Candide was able to think twice about things and was able to make decisions for himself.

In conclusion, I support the quote: "The right good book is a book of travel; it is about a life's journey" because I believe that a good book is a book of travel. When a character travels or goes on a journey, they are able to either learn something or gain something from the journey that they take. For instance Scrooge from *A Christmas Carol*

was able to turn into a better person and not become greedy after seeing what will turn out in the future if he keeps continuing how he acts. That causes Scrooge to change. Also, Candide from *Candide* was able to find out who he truly is and learn about how other people live/ and how life really is. That is why I support the quote that a right good book is a book of travel.

May 31, 2006
English
Mr. Bristol

Portfolio Piece Reflection Requirements (Part 2)

The piece that I am using for Part 2 is the essay that I wrote based on the play *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The original assignment was to write an essay about the role of irony or satire in the book. We had to choose from either irony or satire and provide examples from the text to support our opinion.

I chose this essay for a several of reasons. One reason was because I got a fair grade for this essay. Even though I could have done better, I was satisfied with the grade that I received. I also chose this essay because this assignment was one of the most recent essays that we had to write. I thought if I included an essay that was most recent, it would show how much my writing skills had improved from the beginning of the year till now. Also, *The Importance of Being Earnest* was one of my favorite books that I had read this year in English class. I wanted to include an essay based on my favorite book to show many interesting examples from the text to show why this was my favorite books that we had read.

I am proud of this essay because I was able to confidently write this essay with not many troubles. This essay made me realize that I have learned a lot because I was able to give examples from the text, write about the literary devices, and talk about the book as well. That was why I also included this essay in my portfolio, because I was able to benefit a lot from writing this essay.

If I was to do something better, I would probably re-write the essay with the proper corrections and try to get a better grade however since that is not allowed, I will

have to just stick to this. However, there is not much that I would want to change in this essay because I think it was a good topic to write about and it was an interesting essay that I enjoyed writing. Since I enjoyed writing this essay, I don't think I would like to make any changes. That is why I chose this piece for my Part 2 of my portfolio.

May 11, 2006
English
Final Essay

The Importance of Being Earnest

During the Victorian Age, there were many people in England who were wealthy. In *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde, Wilde uses irony in his play. Irony, a literary device that uses a word or phrase to mean the exact opposite of its literal or normal meaning, is used in *The Importance of Being Earnest* to describe the lives of the upper class people in the Victorian Age. The role of irony in this play is for Wilde to describe how the characters were like and to make fun of the wealthy people in England back then.

In *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Jack Worthing, the main character, is a rich upper class man who is in love with a woman named Gwendolen. He claims that it was love at first sight, and plans on marrying her. He believes Gwendolen will be his first and last love. Gwendolen also loves Jack very much and wants to marry him. Gwendolen thinks that the man she loves is named Ernest but his name is really Jack. Jack is known as a "Bunburyist", which is a person with two different identities or personality. Gwendolen informs Jack that she will only marry a guy named "Ernest". In wanting to marry Gwendolen, Jack is planning to be re-christened to the name Ernest. At the end of the play, there is a shocking, unexpected twist to the play that people would have never expected.

"My dear Algy, you talk exactly as if you were a dentist. It is very vulgar to talk like a dentist when one isn't a dentist. It produces a false impression" (pg 121). This

ironical statement by Jack is saying that his friend, Algernon, should not be someone whom he is not. However, Jack should not be talking because Jack is also the one with two different identities. Jack is being a hypocrite in this situation. Jack is the one who is known to be Ernest in town and as Jack in the country. Jack is saying the complete opposite of what he is suppose to say.

“Do you smoke? Well, yes, I must admit I smoke. I am glad to hear it. A man should have an occupation of some kind” (pg 132). This is another example of irony. When Gwendolen’s mother, Lady Bracknell, catches Gwendolen and “Ernest” together, she immediately starts to ask him questions to see whether he is eligible for marrying her daughter. This quote is an ironical statement because in the play Lady Bracknell is trying to say that smoking is considered a good act when smoking is actually a bad thing that is harmful to your health. Lady Bracknell is using irony. Wilde is trying to say that during the Victorian Age, smoking is something that wealthy people did and was considered a good thing.

“It is always painful to part from people whom one has known for a very brief space of time” (pg 156). When Algernon and Cecily finally meet for the first time, they fall in love with each other. Cecily is the aunt and Jack is the legal guardian of her. Cecily thinks that Algernon’s name is “Ernest” when it is not. Algernon is “bunburying” as well. However, Jack does not know that his friend, Algernon, is at Jack’s country house right now. Algernon who is in love with Cecily asks Cecily to marry him. Cecily agreed to accept his proposal because she always wanted to marry someone with the name of “Ernest”. She has no intention of marrying someone who does not have the name of Ernest. After hearing this, Algernon, plans to get re-christened with the name Ernest.

When Algernon has to return to the country and must depart, Cecily said that it is always painful to part from people who someone has known for a short amount of time. This is an ironical statement as well because usually it is painful to get separated from someone that one has known for a long time not a short amount of time. Cecily is saying the complete opposite.

“From the moment I saw you I distrusted you. I felt that you were false and deceitful. I am never deceived in such manners. My first impressions of people are invariably right” (pg 167). This is an example of irony too. The reason why this is an ironical statement is because when Gwendolen first meets Cecily, she said, “Something tells me that we are going to be great friends. I like you already more than I can say. My first impressions of people are never wrong”. However when both of them found out that they are engaged to a man named Ernest, their fondness turns to hatred. Gwendolen is contradicting herself because she has changed what she had first said. At first Gwendolen said she liked Cecily but after what she had found out, she hates Cecily.

The Importance of Being Earnest, Oscar Wilde uses irony in his play to show that the characters in the play mean the complete opposite of what they are trying to say. He also shows us that the wealthy people during the Victorian Age only cared about themselves and nobody else. The role of irony in this play is to put upper class people's image in a bad light and to express to the readers how the people in England were like back during the Victorian Period. At the end of the play, we discover that Jack Worthing's real name is actually Ernest and that he does have a class in society because coincidentally he happens to be the son of Lady Bracknell's sister and the brother of Algernon with the name of Ernest.

June 1, 2006
English
Mr. Bristol

Portfolio Piece Reflection Requirement (Part 3)

The piece that I am using for Part 3 is my poem called I, too Sing... The original assignment is to write a poem that expressed our self. We had to base our poems on the poems that we had read in class during African American History Month.

I chose this piece for my portfolio because I thought it would look good in my Part 3 because in Part 3 you need to include an creative, imaginative, and expressive writing. The poem that I wrote includes all three of those categories. Also, this is one of the few poems where I put a lot of effort in. It was really hard writing this piece because it is hard to express oneself in a couple of lines depending on the poem.

I feel proud of this poem after I finished writing. After many thinking and writing, it felt good to finally complete something in which you spent a lot of time on. When you first read this poem, some people might think that it must be easy to write because it's easy to express yourself however, that is not true because it's hard to write a poem and one that expresses yourself in a very little sum of words. That is why I decided to include this piece to my portfolio because I am proud of my accomplishments.

If I can do something differently I would take another step farther and make the poem rhyme. It would sound better and it would make me feel **more** proud of myself than I already am of this piece.

~~October 29, 2005~~

English

Mr. Bristol

I, too, Sing...

I, too, sing,

I might not sing only America but I do sing America too.

I may look different looking from others,

But I am still American.

I am an individual,

With a different background, culture, and looks,

But I too sing America,

Because I, too, am American.

June 1, 2006

English

Mr. Bristol

Portfolio Piece Reflection Requirements (Part 4)

The piece that I am using for Part 4 is the journal entries from the book *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. The original assignment was to write a journal entry for each chapter and chose a quote that caused you to pause and talk about the quote.

I chose this piece for my portfolio because as I said before in my Overall Self Reflection, one of my favorite books that I read in English class was *A Christmas Carol*. I really enjoyed reading this book and I enjoyed writing about it as well. The book was very imaginative and Scrooge was a very interesting character. As I was writing the journal entries for this book, there were so many interesting things to write about. I had so many ideas, which helped me give ideas for the essay we had to write based on *A Christmas Carol*.

I am proud of this work. To be honest, I am proud of everything that I did this year in English class. Overall, since there was so many things that I was proud of, it was pretty hard to chose only a couple for my portfolio but I liked *A Christmas Carol* the best that is why I chose this journal entries from the many that we did.

If I was to do decided if I wanted to do something differently I would say nothing because to me a journal entry is just something you write about based on a book. There is no right or wrong answer, you just write about what you read and your opinion on the book. Since there is no right or wrong answer, I would just stick to this original piece and not change anything.

January 25, 2006
English
Mr. Bristol

The Christmas Carol

Stave ONE: Marley's Ghost

In this stave, it tells us that Scrooge's old friend/ partner in business named Marley died. They were pretty well known by people. They had a firm called Scrooge and Marley. They were close to each other well enough to be either called Scrooge or Marley or which ever they were called. They would answer to both names. However, Scrooge was known for his temper. "Oh! But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone, Scrooge! A squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous old sinner!" This quote caused me to pause because this quote showed me that Scrooge was known to be a person who has a bad personality with a bad temper. Also, in this stave, it also said "External heat and cold had little influence on Scrooge". From reading this quote I was able to know that Scrooge is cold hearted and he was no feeling for others that are not important to him. Nobody considers him as a nice person, not even a dog. Even during the time of Christmas, Scrooge was still working and still cold hearted. Then Marley shows up. Not Marley but the ghost of Marley. The ghost of Marley shows up to tell Scrooge that the "three spirits" will haunt him at the same place, the same time, each day for three days.

Stave TWO: The First of the Three Spirits

In this stave, the first of the three spirits appeared. At exactly twelve, a strange figure arrived just as Marley had warned Scrooge. The first spirit is known as the Ghost

of Christmas Past. This ghost shows Scrooge all the past memories of Christmas he buried. Throughout the book, the Ghost of Christmas Past shows us Scrooge's past. From reading about Scrooge's past, I could see why Scrooge is the way he is because back then he didn't have a pleasant life. He was alone and also he had no one to hang out with because his friends neglected him. From reading about Scrooge's past Christmas, we could see why Scrooge does not like Christmas.

From this stave, the quote that caused me to pause was "Heaven knows! When I have learned a truth like this, I know how strong and irresistible it must be". From reading this quote, for a second, I thought Scrooge was being nice because I thought he was trying to say that after he saw all of the things that happened in the past, he knows how much the past can hold and how much of a miserable life he had in his past Christmas's. I think Scrooge will become a better person towards the end of the book because I think the three spirits will try to make the best of him and from the first spirit it seems like Scrooge changed a bit for the better.

Stave **THREE**: The Second of the Three Spirits

In this stave, the second spirit was the Ghost of the Christmas Present. This ghost is quite different from the other ghost. This ghost said he has eighteen hundred brothers! This ghost takes Scrooge to all kinds of Christmas gathering and feasts. In one of the parties that the ghost takes him, Scrooge actually has a good time. Later on, the spirit shows Scrooge the starving children that he has with him. Scrooge wants to help the children however as times goes by the spirit gets older and older. Later on the spirits disappears. As the spirit disappears, a phantom appears and moves towards them.

Stave FOUR: The Last of the Spirits

The phantom continues to approach Scrooge. This Spirit is very mysterious and very quiet unlike the other spirits. This spirit is known to be the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. This spirit takes Scrooge to a lot of strange places. They visited the London Stock Exchange. When they visit that place, they found out that a rich man had died. Many people have been relieved of the death of the rich guy. When Scrooge wants to know who the dead man was, the spirit takes Scrooge to the grave where the name said "Scrooge". When Scrooge sees this, he is very disappointed and turns very miserable. He turns to the spirit and promises that he will honor Christmas from now on. Then the spirit disappears.

I am quite surprised to read about Scrooge's future. I did not expect him to end up being rich and successful. I would have never expected him to die at the end. I am glad to hear the Scrooge promised to honor Christmas because I wouldn't have expected him to say that. The Last of the Three Spirits was good yet very surprising.

Stave FIVE: The End of It

When Scrooge finds himself in the bed the next morning, he is very glad to be back. He is so glad that on Christmas morning, he shouts out "Merry Christmas" to everyone and starts to act differently toward people. After learning about the Past, Present and Christmas Yet to come, not only does he help people but also he gives a raise to the people who work at his office. As time goes on, Scrooge's action and words change Scrooge's views towards Christmas.

MHSHS

Portfolio

Teacher: Bristol

Bristol

Date Submitted: _____

Title of Work: _____

	20	17	14	11	
Overall Organization	All components of portfolio are clear, present, well-organized, and complete.	Most components of portfolio are present, organized, and complete. Might be missing a revision or contain an unsatisfactory reflection.	Fulfills some requirements of the portfolio. Missing two or more components.	Fulfills few if any of the requirements of the portfolio. Missing many / components.	<u>20</u>
Creative Presentation	Fulfills all visual requirements. Portfolio excels in neatness and creativity. Goes above and beyond.	Fulfills most visual requirements. Is neat and creative.	Fulfills some of the visual requirements. May be lacking in neatness or creativity.	Fulfills few if any of the visual requirements. Is messy and/ or lacks in creativity.	<u>20</u>
Reflections	Exhibits an exceptionally honest, candid ability to reflect upon one's self and work in the overall self-reflection, all other reflections and portfolio conference.	Exhibits a basic ability to reflect upon one's self and work in the overall self-reflection, all other reflections and portfolio conference.	Is lacking in some aspects of one or more reflections. Displays an incomplete ability to reflect on one's work in writing or conference.	Is lacking in many aspects of many of the reflections. Does not display an ability to reflect on one's work in writing or conference.	<u>20</u>
Revisions	Has shown exceptional and thoughtful revisions in every piece of work. All revision drafts are present.	Has shown thoughtful revisions in every piece of work. Most revisions are present.	Has shown revisions in some pieces of work. Some revisions are present.	Has shown insufficient revisions in many pieces of work. Few revisions are present.	<u>20</u>
Mechanics and Grammar	Components have no errors in punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.	Components have one or two punctuation, capitalization, and spelling errors.	Components have several punctuation, capitalization, and spelling errors which do not hinder the ability to comprehend.	Components have several errors in punctuation, capitalization, and spelling which hinder the ability to comprehend.	<u>19</u>
				Total →	<u>99</u>

Teacher Comments: