

Overview:

Using BoomWriter's interactive group-writing tool, StoryWriter, teachers can conduct a fun, engaging personal narrative activity with students writing from the perspective of a Mayflower passenger's journey to the New World and the start of his or her new life. See below for some helpful, suggested objectives to focus your narrative on.

Grades: 5 - 12

Materials:

Computers w/Web access

Registration on www.boomwriter.com (free)

Project Length

Varies with number of chapters and length

Lesson Objectives to Consider

While participating in this StoryWriter Personal Narrative Activity, students can:

- ★ Develop an understanding of the Pilgrims' experiences and hardships while traveling on the Mayflower and establishing a settlement in the New World.
- ★ Convey an understanding of the colonial and Wampanoag cultures of the early 1600s.
- ★ Describe the daily life and culture of the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags.
- ★ Focus/identify the effects that voice and tone have on their writing in creating the narrative of the persona.
- ★ Utilize literary devices, such as metaphor and simile, to convey the plight of the characters.

Lesson Steps

- ★ Go to www.boomwriter.com to create a free teacher account or login from www.boomwriter.com/Admin/Login.
- ★ Once logged in, click on the “StoryWriter” tab from the Dashboard and select “New Book”. Click the “Custom” tab and “Create Story Start” to provide students with a prompt/directive for writing their narrative. Once done, click “Publish Now” to set up book.
- ★ After setting a word limit, adding your students, selecting the number of chapters, and setting the writing and voting deadline (which can be changed at any time), provide your students with some “Guidance Notes”. Consider using some of our suggested objectives above, or have students focus on a particular literary device, theme, or lesson being taught in class.
- ★ Once you’re satisfied with the set-up, you can hit “Save and start”. Now your students are all set to log in and start writing!

Standards Addressed

- ★ English Language Arts/Literacy Common Core Standards Aligned
- ★ Writing Common Core Standards Aligned
- ★ Technology Common Core Standards Aligned
- ★ History/Social Studies Common Core Standards Aligned