**Writer’s Craft Midterm Review**

Your midterm will have 4 parts—including objective, multiple choice questions (on the scantron) and a writing section (in the blue book.)

1. 30 multiple questions – on writing terms, featuring a short story and a poem
2. An original short story – demonstrating your thoughtful, figurative, and purposeful decisions; also, an explanation of what decisions you made as a writer, their purpose and intended effect
3. An original poem -- demonstrating your thoughtful, figurative, and purposeful decisions; also, an explanation of what decisions you made as a writer, their purpose and intended effect

You should bring a #2 pencil for the scantron section. Go back through our handouts this semester and look for the ones that define and demonstrate writing strategies and techniques.

Make sure to look over the following terms. Besides knowing their definition, make sure you understand how to demonstrate and/or implement these terms into your own writing.

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Foundational writing terms

1. **diction** -- word choice
2. **syntax** -- the arrangement of words in a sentence
3. **tone --** the attitude the writer has towards the subject

Modes of writing – each mode has a different purpose

1. **Description** -- describing something in detail
2. **Narrative** -- tells a story
3. **Argument** -- trying to persuade the reader to see the value of a claim/opinion
4. **Cause and Effect** -- showing the relationship between two or more issues/events, etc.
5. **Division & Classification** -- separating information/ideas  into organized, more manageable parts
6. **Definition** -- defining an important term or concept for the reader
7. **Process analysis** -- outlining the process or steps of a particular task or concept

Types of nouns

1. **Concrete nouns –** are tangible; things that you can experience through your five senses

* *Chair, computer, hair, book, beach, etc.*

1. **Abstract nouns –** are intangible; they are ideas and concepts

* *Silence, joy, hatred, justice, pain, etc.*

Rhetorical devices

1. **Metonymy/Synecdoche --** A [figure of speech](http://grammar.about.com/od/fh/g/figuresterms.htm) in which one word or phrase is substituted for another with which it is closely associated (such as "crown" for "royalty").

* *The pen is mightier than the sword*
* *The IRS is auditing me? Great. All I need is a couple of suits arriving at my door.*

## Zeugma -- the use of a word to modify or govern two or more words, combining both literal and figurative uses, as in On his fishing trip, he caught three trout and a cold.

* *"There's people on the street using guns and knives, taking drugs and each others lives." Flight of the Conchords, “*[*Think About It*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Think_About_It)*"*
* *He carried a strobe light and the responsibility for the lives of his men.* [*Tim O'Brien*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tim_O%27Brien_(author))*,* [*The Things They Carried*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Things_They_Carried)

1. **Metaphors** -- state a comparison between two unlike things.

* *My life is an open book.*
* *Baby, you’re a firework.*

1. **Similes** – make comparisons between two unlike things, using the words “like” or “as”

* *Life is like a box of chocolates.*
* *That baby is as cute as a button!*

1. **Personification** -- a figure of speech in which a thing, an idea or an animal is given human attributes. The non-human objects are portrayed in such a way that we feel they have the ability to act like human beings.

* Look at my car. *She* is a beauty, isn’t it so?
* The wind *whispered* through dry grass.

Parts of sentences

1. **Participle Phrases** -- Participles describe nouns or pronouns. Present participles always end in *–ing*. Past participles always end in *–ed.*

Construction — starts with an --ing word (present) or an --ed word (past)

* *Sitting up in bed eating breakfast*, we could see the lake and the mountains across the lake on the French side.

1. **Appositive Phrases --**  Appositive phrases are noun phrases that identify adjacent nouns or pronouns.

Construction— noun phrase (could replace the subject and still make sense)

* Poppa, *a good quiet man*, relaxed beside the lake.

1. **Prepositional Phrases**– are sentence parts that describe people, things, or actions. Most begin with one of these prepositions: *about, above, across, after, against, along, among, around, at, before, behind, below, beneath, beside, between, by, down, during, except, for, from, in, in front of, inside, instead of, into, like, near, of, off, on, onto, on top of, out of, outside, over, past, since, through, to, toward, under, underneath, until, up, upon, with, within, without*

* *At the bottom*, he looked glumly *down the tunnel.*
* Bearded men, *in sad-colored garments and gray, steeple-crowned hats*, intermixed with women.