



**Essay Boot Camp  
4-Day Workshop  
Essays Only**

**Day 1: Stimulate Ideas By Stirring Your Memory.**

Time	Lesson	Activity	Notes
15-20 minutes	Student Introductions	Students answer 1-2 questions as warm up exercise.	Use Qs from materials sent Pre-Course.
15-20 minutes	Goal Setting House Rules	State intentions for the week and write down the # of essays plan to complete. (4-8)	Post Its / Poster Paper / Markers
20 minutes	2 Questions/ 7 Categories	Students begin jotting down possible topics	Coolness Factor 7 Categories Video for reinforcement/ resource
30 minutes	What-Why-Memory	Walk students through this exercise – use students in real time for examples	WWM Video for reinforcement/ resource
80 minutes	Quick writes on 6-8 topics – take the WWM exercise and put on paper	WRITE	Set 10 minute timer x 8 times
10 minutes	BREAK		
50 minutes	5 senses show/tell	WRITE	Show v Tell Video for reinforcement/ resource
10 minutes	Q&A Review of Today Expectations for Tomorrow		No Homework.



## Day 2: Select Topics And Shape Them With The 5 Senses.

Time	Lesson	Activity	Notes
15 minutes	Review yesterday. What's working? What is not?	Goal Today: Narrow down to 4 Topics that are working and keep writing.	Student essays now have our comments with specific recommendations for which essays have real potential.
25 minutes	Pitfalls: People, Athletics, Challenges	Discuss / Use examples from previous classes and current class (with permission)	3 pitfalls Videos for reinforcement/ resource
90 minutes	Next Draft - How to grow your essay before shrinking it	WRITE 15-20 minutes on each of the 4 essays	Goal: really work on hitting your WHY.
25 minutes	Editing Every word and sentence should advance your story.	Editing Exercise	Editing Video for reinforcement/ resource
10 minutes	BREAK		
60 minutes	Next Draft – using everything you now know... keep writing	WRITE	Focus on WHY, Message, Background
15 minutes	Q&A Review of Today Expectations for Tomorrow		No homework unless really behind.



### Day 3: Stretch Your Writing By Using The Practice of Strike and Simplify.

Time	Lesson	Activity	Notes
10 minutes	Allow students to receive and review feedback from night before	Quiet time	
25 minutes	Show v. Tell General Feedback Word Count Rich sentences Answering the question	Discuss / Use examples from class with permission / take courageous leaders in group	Videos as supplements
15 minutes	Take examples from the class.  Q: What does this essay say about John/ Sandra?	Guided discussion - Have the group help the students.	Find examples that are “typical” topics. How can each student use their WHY to drive home their message.
25 minutes	Show v. Tell General Feedback Word Count Rich sentences Answering the question	Discuss / Use examples from class with permission / take courageous leaders in group	Videos as supplements
80 minutes	Next Draft -  Each sentence should move the story forward. NO superfluous words / sentences. Strike and Simplify.	WRITE 15-20 minutes on each of the 4 essays Some will need to grow essay longer before cutting. Some will begin really editing to have a long and short version	Goal: prepping for success and completion on day 4
10 minutes	BREAK		
60 minutes	Next Draft –keep writing	WRITE.EDIT.REPEAT.	
15 minutes	Expectation of Completion Tomorrow!!!		No homework unless really behind.



## Day 4

### Sparkle. Shine. Soar.

Time	Lesson	Activity	Notes
10 minutes	Allow students to receive and review feedback from night before	Quiet time	
10 minutes	It's go big or go home time!! You came here for a reason!	Review Goals. How are you going to get there today? Implement feedback is fastest path to completions.	Use examples of what is working.
15-20 minutes	Clear Concise Correct Other Reminders	Samples from group	Good to SHOW examples on screen
60-90 minutes	Next Draft -	#keepgoing	Instructors keep reviewing in real time
	Repeat until Complete!		