

Winter short assignment description

Due Thursday, Feb. 11th

We will begin by writing outside on Tuesday in the **COLD WINTER WEATHER** for **15ish minutes**. Dress warm! Find a comfy spot outside—on a bench, under a tree, on the front steps (maybe bring some hot cocoa)! First compile a **list of descriptive words** (these do not have to be adjectives) that you think of as you see, smell, hear, etc. what's going on around you (10-20 words). Try to use all five of your senses (even if you can't taste the snow or breeze, what would it taste like?). Then write a **descriptive paragraph**—try some metaphors and similes and unique ways to describe things. No wrong answers, this is practice so stretch those creative muscles! We will be sharing these in class & discussing details. Upload a photo of your surroundings or one thing nearby (a tree?) and your word list to the **blog** tonight. This story seed should serve as a prompt for your Winter Short.

We have read several shorts that talk about **winter and snow**, and you will be viewing/reading about trees. Use these works as inspiration for your descriptions but take create freedom (listen to your “broccoli”) with regards to content, as well as structure and form. What are your thoughts on winter right now? Do you want to write a letter to winter? To snow? Do you want to explore all the things you love to do in the winter, what the season means to you? Maybe a favorite winter memory?

Length & format

Approx. 500 words (around 2 pages double spaced). Double-spaced, 12 pt. font, etc., etc. (see syllabus). This is your first assignment and your opportunity to explore some fun and unique sensory details and warm up (see what I did there?) your creative writing muscles. Be creative in both subject and style! This assignment is worth **5%** of your final grade.