Narrative 1.1 Writing Help

*Evidencing My Competency in Academics and Meeting Personal Obligations*

[Reminder: Section 1 is related to Preparation for a Career in Education]

Look through your artifacts and find something that shows evidence of your knowledge and skills in core academics and other content areas. Your transcript, report card, or progress reports are probably the easiest to access. *(Look at the evidence ideas in your Portfolio Handbook.)*

Write a paragraph for the first bullet in which you discuss the core classes you have taken in high school to prepare you for college. Core classes are English, math, science, and social studies. Include in your discussion, the fact that passing these classes verifies you have mastered that subject’s content (material), and discuss which were easy or difficult for you and why. If you have chosen your transcripts, report card, or progress report as evidence, address it in this paragraph.

Write a paragraph for bullet two which explains how mastering academics impacts both future teachers and their students. Why do teachers need to have knowledge in these core subject areas? Why is it important for an elementary teacher to understand all the core subject areas thoroughly? Why is it important for a middle or high school teacher to know the subject matter being taught, for example, a biology teacher needs to have a broad understanding of all basic science concepts, in addition to, specific biology-related content (animals, plants, anatomy, etc.)? Why should future teachers have a mastery (understanding) of the core subjects? Would it benefit them in college classes or as a classroom teacher? If a teacher had not mastered the core subjects, how could it affect the students in that teacher’s classroom? Explain why everyone needs a basic knowledge in the core subject areas (English, math, science, social studies). Explain why these classes are required for graduation, and how knowledge of these areas is beneficial for members of society.

Write a paragraph for bullet three in which you discuss how you meet your personal obligations and school expectations, **and** why it is important to meet them. Also, give at least one specific example of how you meet your obligations and expectations.

**Include a reference to your evidence and explanation of how that evidence demonstrates knowledge and skills in core academics and other content areas.**

Narrative 1.2 Writing Help

*Evidencing My Knowledge and Skills in Technology*

[Reminder: Section 1 is related to Preparation for a Career in Education]

Look through your artifacts and find something that shows evidence of your knowledge and skills in technology. (Look at the evidence ideas in your Portfolio Handbook.)

Write at least one paragraph for the first bullet discussing how you use technology to enhance your learning, communication and productivity. What are some examples of technology you have observed, participated, or used in the classroom, and how has it benefitted you? Write about how you use computer applications for word processing, power point presentations, publications, and other products. Include specific examples of how, when and where you have created these documents. If you have used spreadsheets or databases, also include these in your discussion. How does the ability to use these computer applications and their supporting technologies help you learn better? How do LCD projectors, Smart Boards (interactive white boards), or graphing calculators help you learn? How can the use of teacher web pages for assignments, presentations, lectures, or other instructional materials help you learn? How could podcasts or blogs help students to learn? How does technology such as email, internet, and social networking capabilities enhance your communication? Explain how you can use these for research or the sharing of ideas. How can the use of teacher web pages help you communicate with your teachers? How do school web pages help with communication? How can the availability of computers, software programs, and printers help your productivity (the ability to create or produce documents, presentations, or publications). How can the availability of graphing calculators help your productivity in solving problems or performing calculations? You may want to choose one of the many products you have created in this class as evidence.

Write a paragraph for bullet two which discusses the legal or ethical, social or cultural, and safety issues related to technology (be sure to address all three issues *i.e.* legal/ethical, social/cultural, and safety). Why is it important for teachers to recognize the safety, legal, and ethical issues surrounding technology? What are some of the safety, legal, and ethical issues (think about Facebook or MySpace)? Why do schools use internet filters and student usage agreements? What are some social or cultural issues surrounding technology? Why is there disparity among schools in the access and use of technology? How does the disparity affect student achievement?

Write a paragraph for bullet three which defines the criteria for determining the credibility of information found on the internet. How do you know if a website is legitimate and the information is accurate and valid? What are some of the things you should look for to be sure the site is credible? Use the handout on website credibility as a resource.

**Include a reference to your evidence and explanation of how that evidence demonstrates your personal knowledge and skills in using technology.**

Narrative 1.3 Writing Help

*Planning for My Career in Education*

[Reminder: Section 1 is related to Preparation for a Career in Education]

Look through your artifacts and find something that shows evidence that you have taken steps towards planning for a career in education. (Look at the evidence ideas in your Portfolio Handbook.)

Write a paragraph for the first bullet identifying the various positions within education and the knowledge and skills needed to obtain licensure. Use your guided readings from class or the text that discuss Praxis, INTASC, etc. List the positions in education and what is required for licensure in each of the positions, beginning with a statement about licensure needing a bachelor’s degree from an accredited teacher preparation program. Positions are generally elementary teacher, middle school teacher, or high school teacher, special education or gifted teacher, principal, guidance counselor, superintendent, etc. What are the different types of licensure in Ohio (use the Ohio Department of Education website to help with this section: www.ode.state.oh.us). Describe the types of licensure: early childhood education, middle childhood education, adolescence to young adult education, multi-age education and intervention specialist. What are the different types of teaching fields for young adult and multi-age education? What are the different types of teaching fields for an intervention specialist? What is the difference between a 4 year resident educator and a 5 year license?

Write a paragraph for bullet two which evaluates your compatibility for a career in education. Explain how the skills and abilities you have would make you a good teacher. Why do you think teaching may be the ideal profession for you? When did you first think that teaching may be the career for you? What made you think that? You may reference some of the assessments or evaluations you have done in this class (learning styles, intelligence types, communication skills, goals, etc.) Explain why it is important to manage stress as an educator, and your personal stress management techniques.

Write a paragraph for bullet three outlining your personal plan for a career in education. *[If you have determined that you will not become a teacher, skip to the text box section.]* What you have done to prepare for a career in education. Have you visited and/or been accepted to college? Have you researched colleges that have good teaching programs? Explain how taking this class could be a first step towards planning for a teaching career. What would be your ideal teaching job? With what type of teaching job would you like to start? What are your long-term goals: master’s degree, doctorate degree, specialist, principal, counselor, superintendent?

- If you know you do not want to be a teacher, start this paragraph by stating that, then answer the following questions.

- What career are you pursuing?

- What you have done to prepare for a career?

- Have you visited and/or been accepted to a college, trade school, apprenticeship?

- What would be your ideal job?

- What are your long-term goals: additional training, owning a business, etc.?

Write a paragraph for bullet four that demonstrates appropriate language, conduct and appearance in educational settings. What would be appropriate language, conduct and appearance in educational settings? Write about examples for each area: appropriate language, conduct and appearance in educational settings. What would be considered appropriate (professional) attire for teachers? What should teachers wear or not wear? What would be considered appropriate (professional) conduct for teachers? How should teachers act? What should they do or not do in the classroom or school building? What would be considered appropriate (professional) language for teachers? What should a teacher say or not say? What type of grammar, slang, vocabulary should a teacher use?

**Include a reference to your evidence and explanation of how that evidence demonstrates that you have been planning for a career in education.**

Narrative 1.4 Writing Help

*Describing Responsibility and Accountability within Educational Systems*

[Reminder: Section 1 is related to Preparation for a Career in Education]

Look through your artifacts and find something that shows evidence of responsibility and accountability within educational systems. (Look at the evidence ideas in your Portfolio Handbook.)

Write **two** paragraphs for the first bullet explaining the history and organization of educational systems in the United States. The ***first*** paragraph should explain the history and organization of educational systems in the United States prior to the Civil War. The ***second*** paragraph should explain the history and organization of educational systems in the United States after the Civil War. Each paragraph should *briefly* answer these questions: Who were the teachers? What was their purpose? What was the curriculum like? What types of rules and roles were there for teachers? What were the schools like? Who attended the school (who had the privilege?) What affect did geography have on schools? You may want to use your guided readings from class or the text that discusses the history of education in the U.S.

Write a paragraph for the second bullet in which you describe the teacher’s responsibility and accountability in meeting school, district, state, and national policies and requirements. Use the Ohio Department of Education website to help with this section: [www.ode.state.oh.us](http://www.ode.state.oh.us). Read the Licensure Code of Professional Conduct for Ohio Educators and explain ways teachers need to be responsible and accountable. What does being “accountable” mean? Why should teachers be responsible and accountable? To whom are they responsible and accountable? How would a teacher know what the policies and requirements are for a school or district? Where could a teacher find the policies and requirements for a state or the U.S.? How and why are teachers responsible for maintaining records to show they are accountable for meeting the school, district, and government requirements? What is the rationale (reason) for having school, district, and government policies and procedures?

Write a paragraph for the third bullet in which you describe the school and district’s responsibility to students and parents in meeting state and national policies and requirements. Why do schools and districts need to be responsible to students and parents in meeting state and national policies and requirements? For what types of things should schools and districts be responsible for meeting? How could a lack of responsibility by the schools in meeting the policies and requirements affect a student’s education or future? Why should schools be accountable to the parents?

**Include a reference to your evidence and explanation of how that evidence demonstrates responsibility and accountability within the educational system.**

Narrative 1.5 Writing Help

*Demonstrating Effective Communication*

[Reminder: Section 1 is related to Preparation for a Career in Education]

Look through your artifacts and find something that shows evidence of effective communication. (Look at the evidence ideas in your Portfolio Handbook.)

Write a paragraph for the first bullet in which you describe effective communication skills used in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. (Be sure to address each of the areas: reading, writing, listening, and speaking.) What would be considered effective communication skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking? Why should teachers have effective communication skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking? How could a teacher’s *effective* communication skills benefit students? How could a teacher’s *ineffectiv*e communication skills adversely affect students? How could a student’s poor communication skills adversely affect them? How could a student benefit from having good communication skills? Give specific examples of effective communication. Rate yourself on your effectiveness of communication. Do you use good communication skills while reading, writing, listening, and speaking? Explain where you think your skill level is in communicating effectively.

Write a paragraph for the second bullet in which you explain why a teacher should have the ability to lead and work on a team, and employ (use) critical thinking, problem solving, and innovative (creative) skills. Why should a teacher be able to lead or work on a team? What would be the advantages for a teacher to be able to work on a team or lead? What could be a negative consequence if a teacher cannot work on a team or lead? Why should a teacher be able to think critically, solve problems, and be creative? What would be the advantages for a teacher to think critically, solve problems, and be creative? What could be a negative consequence if a teacher cannot think critically, solve problems, and be creative? How could a teacher’s *ability* to think critically, solve problems, and be creative affect them? How could a teacher’s *inability* to think critically, solve problems, and be creative affect them? Give specific examples of how a teacher could work in groups or be a leader. Also, give specific examples of how a teacher could use critical thinking, problem solving, and innovative (creative) skills. Rate yourself on your ability to be a leader and work in groups, and rate yourself on your ability to be creative. How well do you think you solve problems or think critically? Give examples of your abilities.

**Include a reference to your evidence and explanation of how that evidence demonstrates effective communication.**