**Prompt: Personal Essay**

**Consider:** In our discussion of writing, we have discussed how the combination of subject and audience determine the difficulty of a writing assignment (remember the scale by James Moffett where subjects and audiences that are familiar are easier than ones that are unfamiliar). We have also discussed writing as a process of idea generating (the web), structure generating (outlining), text generating (drafting), and revision (peer editing). All work generated for this assignment (from web to final draft) will be collected. Follow the format guidelines posted on the class Moodle site; be sure to see me if there are problems. As we discussed when going over the rubric: focus on an interesting introduction (hook) that goes from general to specific; be aware of transitions between paragraphs to make your writing smoother (flow); end with a conclusion that reemphasizes the thesis (why it was significant/what you discovered about life); and be sure to proofread so that your mechanics do not weaken what you have written (use of commas and semicolons). Your final draft should be a minimum of 7 pages (double-spaced).

**Prompt:** Your essay is a personal narrative about a significant time in your life—your audience is me. Write an essay that tells the story of this event and concludes with a clear statement of learning or discovery (Why was it significant?). Use action and emotion (rhetorical tools) to bring the event to life and make it interesting to read. Populate it with people you know and animate them. Sprinkle details around and explain people’s behavior and attitudes, as well as why things happened. Also, use examples and comparisons to expand the scope of the experience for both yourself and the reader. This is a significant moment; make it have a universal reach. You are writing about your life, make your writing worthy of it.