Grade 12

40 Transactional English

Biography Unit

Sequence 2

Checklist

\_\_\_Read Short Biography Provided & Answer Comp Questions

\_\_\_Complete 2 Biography Outlines on People of your choice

(Utilize internet to complete research such as YouTube, biography.com )

\_\_\_Identify one of the Individuals and complete the web

\_\_\_Complete Essay Outline

\_\_\_Complete 5 Self edits on Essay Outline

\_\_\_Complete a Good Copy – This should be done separately either typed or written out.

**ISPL Kildonan East Collegiate**

**Bill Gates**

Bill Gates is the co-founder of the computer-software company called Microsoft. His

company has changed how millions of people in the world communicate and how they do business. Gates was born in Seattle, Washington, on October 28, 1955. His father was a lawyer and his mother was very active in the community. Gates attended public school until he was 12. He then went to a private school. It was here that he met and became friends with Paul Allen, his Microsoft co-founder. Gates was very good at math and at 13 he began to work with computers. He and Allen often worked together on computer projects and had their own small company in high school.

In 1973, Gates went to Harvard University. Steve Ballmer lived in the same building and they became friends. Ballmer later became the president of Microsoft. In 1974, the MITS company asked Gates and Allen to write the programming language for its Altair 8800, the first microcomputer. It was a success and MITS gave them more work. In 1975, Gates and Allen moved to New Mexico and started Microsoft. The first few years were hard. In 1979, they moved their company to Seattle. In 1980, the IBM company developed a computer for people to use at home. Microsoft supplied the operating system for it. Gates and Allen made enough money from this to stay in business.

Microsoft is still developing and building software for both personal and business computers. In 1995, it brought out the Internet Explorer browser. People all over the world use it to go onto the Internet. Microsoft has been so successful that Bill Gates is one of the richest people in the world. He and his wife, Melinda, give billions of dollars to charity every year. They have set up a scholarship program to help minority students go to university. They have also given large amounts of money to global health groups, libraries, and community projects. Gates, his wife, and their three children live near Seattle. Their 40,000-square-foot house is famous for its use of technology.

**Comprehension Questions**

What is the reason this individual is well known?

Provide a personal description of Bill Gates?

Identify the hi-lites of Bill’s life?

What are some notable achievements by Bill?

What is your personal opinion about Bill’s life story?

**Terry Fox**

Terry Fox is a Canadian hero. Terry was born on July 28, 1958, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, but grew up in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia. He played many sports in high school and went to university to study physical education. His studies ended in 1977 when doctors discovered he had bone cancer. Shortly after this, his right leg was amputated above the knee. While he was recovering in hospital, he decided to run across Canada. He wanted to let people know about the suffering of cancer patients and to raise money for cancer research.

After his recovery, Terry was fitted with an artificial leg. He then spent 18 months running thousands of kilometers to prepare for what he called the “Marathon of Hope”.

He began his run in St. John’s, Newfoundland, on April 12, 1980, when he dipped his foot in the Atlantic Ocean. As Terry ran along the highway, his friend followed him in a motorhome. It was a difficult run, especially in the beginning when few people knew about it. But he was very determined and kept running. Soon people were gathering along his route to cheer him on and to give money to his cause. The media began to report on his progress.

On September 1, 1980, Terry’s marathon ended near Thunder Bay, Ontario. Cancer had spread to his lungs and he could go no further. He had run for 143 days and had covered 5,373 kilometers. Canadians were deeply saddened when this happened. The whole country mourned when Terry died on June 28,1981.

Since his death, Terry Fox Runs have raised hundreds of millions of dollars for cancer research. These runs are held each year across Canada and in 60 countries around the world. Terry Fox was made a Companion of the Order of Canada before he died and has been honored in every part of the country.

**Comprehension Questions**

What is the reason this individual is well known?

Provide a personal description of Terry Fox?

Identify the Hi-lites of Terry’s life?

What are some notable achievements by Terry?

What is your personal opinion about Terry’s life story?

Biography Outline #1 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The following requirements need to be met in the preparation of your Biography.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Background Information  Date and place of birth:  Where did this person grow up?  What places has this person lived? | Description: What adjectives would you use to describe the person?  1.  2.  3.  4.  5. |
| Important Events: What events shaped of changed this person’s life and or/ others?  1.  2.  3. | Interesting Facts  1.  2.  3. |
| Quotations: What have others said about this person?  1.  2.  3. | Life’s Work/ Significance of this individual to the world.  1.  2.  3. |
| Important statements this individual has made.  1.  2.  3. | Why did you choose this individual?  1.  2.  3. |
| Bibliography: What sites where used in obtaining information.  1.  2.  3. |  |

Biography Outline #2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The following requirements need to be met in the preparation of your Biography.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Background Information  Date and place of birth:  Where did this person grow up?  What places has this person lived? | Description: What adjectives would you use to describe the person?  1.  2.  3.  4.  5. |
| Important Events: What events shaped of changed this person’s life and or/ others?  1.  2.  3. | Interesting Facts  1.  2.  3. |
| Quotations: What have others said about this person?  1.  2.  3. | Life’s Work/ Significance of this individual to the world.  1.  2.  3. |
| Important statements this individual has made.  1.  2.  3. | Why did you choose this individual?  1.  2.  3. |
| Bibliography: What sites where used in obtaining information.  1.  2.  3. |  |

**Biography Web Essay Organizer**

The purpose of a Biography essay is to present information about a specific person’s life experiences. Presentation of facts, definitions and examples should be provided.

|  |
| --- |
| Individual |

**Body Paragraph #1**

|  |
| --- |
| Main Idea #1 – Intro  Important Events |

|  |
| --- |
| Detail #1 |

|  |
| --- |
| Detail #2 |

|  |
| --- |
| Detail #3 |

**Body Paragraph #2**

|  |
| --- |
| Main Idea #2 – Intro  Interesting Facts |

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| --- |
| Detail #1 |

|  |
| --- |
| Detail #2 |

|  |
| --- |
| Detail #3 |

**Body Paragraph #3**

|  |
| --- |
| Main Idea #3 – Intro  Why did you choose this individual |

|  |
| --- |
| Detail #1 |

|  |
| --- |
| Detail #2 |

|  |
| --- |
| Detail #3 |

Each of the Webs connect to a body paragraph within the 5 paragraph Essay that is to be completed.

# Biography Essay Outline

**Topic**

# Introduction

3 Requirements of Introduction – Should be 2-3 sentences

* Main Idea – Individual your Biography Essay is on
* Use of an adjective or 2 to describe the person. (refer to adjective list)
* Identify the 3 main Ideas of the 3 Body Paragraphs.

Thesis (Main Idea) Hook Sentence

**Body Paragraphs**

* Refer to the Web outline to complete body Paragraphs.
* Each Detail and Closing sentence need to begin with a transition word. Refer to the word box at the end of the Essay Outline.

# First Body Paragraph

Introductory Sentence

Detail 1

Follow Up 1

Detail 2

Follow Up 2

Detail 3

Follow Up 3

Closing Sentence

# Second Body Paragraph

Introductory Sentence

Detail 1

Follow Up 1

Detail 2

Follow Up 2

Detail 3

Follow Up 3

Closing Sentence

# Third Body Paragraph

Introductory Sentence

Detail 1

Follow Up 1

Detail 2

Follow Up 2

Detail 3

Follow Up 3

Closing Sentence

# Concluding Paragraph

3 Requirements of Concluding Paragraph

* Main Idea – Individual your Biography Essay is on
* Use of an adjective or 2 to describe the person that is different from the Introduction.
* Strong closing statement regarding the individual.

Thesis/ Main Idea (In closing)

|  |
| --- |
| **Transitions:** First, Second, Third, Similarly, In the beginning, Next, Before, During, After, The most important, On one hand, Another example, For example, Further, In the meantime, Consequently, In the same way, Also  **Concluding Transitions:** In summary, To conclude, It may be seen, As a result, In short, Therefore, In conclusion, Thus, In brief |

Adjectives Word List

humble studious demanding brave

intelligent bossy courageous honest

gentle serious mischievous loving

funny friendly proud humours

adventurous wild sad hard-working

messy resourceful timid neat

stubborn shy joyful loyal

bold cooperative gullible daring

lovable handsome ambitious caring

carefree curious selfish patriotic

witty fighter generous successful

determined responsible dreamer leader

rude creative independent imaginative

NOW COMPLETE FINAL DRAFT OF THE BIOGRAPHY ESSAY

REFER TO FORMAT EXAMPLE BELOW WHEN TYPING/ WRITING YOUR ESSAY OUTLINE

THE FOLLOWING FORMAT EXAMPLE SHOULD BE COMPLETED WHEN YOU DO YOUR FINAL DRAFT BIOGRAPHY ESSAY.

In the novel of To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee, many themes were

introduced. These themes affected each character in many ways. The important themes Intro Paragraph

explored in this novel are maturity, loss, and isolation which changed the characters’

points of views.

The theme of maturity was widely brought out by many characters. To begin with,

Scout was very intelligent and had the perspectives of both an adult and a child. For

example, she was the only one in her first grade class that was able to read and write well.

"We dont write in the first grade, we print. You wont learn to write until grade three, "

Miss Caroline had said to Scout. To continue, Jem also developed his maturity by

learning the circumstances of life. He learned that no one should ever hurt anything or 1st Body Paragraph

anyone innocent, because it is not right. Lastly, Atticus Finch was very mature by making

right decisions. He took the case of Tom Robinson even though he wasnt accepted in the

society and that he didnt have a chance of winning the case. To sum up, these three

characters brought the theme of maturity in many good ways.

Many characters experienced loss throughout the course of the novel. Ms. Dubose

was an elderly woman whose death was a loss to the Finch family. For example, Jem felt

bad about not being nice with her at times and figured that she was a good lady and not a

mean one like he thought. "...everything's all right now , Jem, everything's all right. You

know, she was a great lady, " Atticus had said.On the other hand, Mr. Nathan Radley lost 2nd Body Paragraph

his wife and one of his sons. He lost most of the love he had because that tragedy caused

him to be sad. Finally, Tom Robinson was also a loss throughtout this novel. He had

gotten murdered even though he was not guilty leaving his family without a husband and

a father. In brief, loss was a major theme which had a great impact on the characters.

Isolating characters was a common situation that developed for many characters in

the novel. Firstly, Mr. Boo Radley was always kept in the house by his father. Due to his

bad actions of stabing his father in the thigh, it caused him to be isolated from everyone

in the neighbourhood. The coloured race was another symbol of isolation in Maycomb

County. Everyone disliked the coloured race and gave them the lowest status in all the 3rd  Body Paragraph

society. To elucidate, they had a different church to go to then the white race and they

were given the upper balcony in a courtroom. Last but not least, the Ewells also signified

isolation. "I think we'd better excuse you for the rest of the afternoon. I want you to go

home and wash your hair, " Miss Caroline had said to a Ewell. In short, isolation caused a

lot of seperation amongst the people of Maycomb County.

To conclude, the themes of maturity, loss, and isolation were revealed in the novel

of To Kill a Mockingbird. Each of these themes made a tremendous impact on each and Closing Paragraph

every character and taught them many scarce lessons in life.