Narrative Finals

Purdy (Adapted from Willett)

Original Compositions (Approximately 300 words) Characteristics of good writing

1. Prompt: A word or statement that encourages writing. (Challenging circumstances lead to positive actions)
2. Narrative: A story – (The theme of the story is the prompt)
3. Characters: Characters should be based on you, or someone you know intimately., so that the motivations for their actions are clearly understood and they have a ring of truth, they can be based on a combination of people but you should be economical in the number of characters you use in a 300 word composition because you lack time to develop them.
4. Setting: The environment described should be a place you know well so that you can see the place in your mind’s eye. And make the reader see it through their eyes.
5. Plot: There are 2 types of writing –
   1. Grocery shopping list: a quick description of events to allow the reader to experience the unfolding of events within a story.
   2. Micro scoping: a very detailed account of events using descriptive language to make the reader feel as though they are actually seeing and experiencing the events being described. It should happen twice in a narrative.

Note: If the theme or narrative was challenging circumstances lead to positive actions, dividing the prompt and theme into two parts helps identify where micro scoping takes place.