# The Significance of Memory A Research and Literary Analysis Writing Assignment



**Prompt**: In a well-written two paragraph essay, analyze the importance of memory and the impacts of memory loss through both literary analysis (via Yoko Ogawa's *The Memory Police*), as well-conducted research of reputable sources (via the provided Library Pathfinder). Though your paragraphs focus on analyzing different forms of information, your essay should be cohesive, demonstrating clear connections between the topics at hand.

## Process:

- 1) Research + Evidence Outline
  - Using the library pathfinder linked here (<u>Memory Pathfinder</u>), conduct research through reputable sources to find evidence for your essay relating to memory/memory loss. You will record your two chosen quotations from your research, as well as your citations, on a provided outline document.
  - Find two quotations from *The Memory Police* to support your claims. Then, record them on the same provided outline document. **Note: Only your quotations will be outlined**.
- 2) Timed Writing (1 Class Period)
  - Within one class period, you will write out the essay (two paragraphs), using only your Evidence Outline to guide your writing. Essays will be hand-written, and turned in along with the outline at the end of the period.
- 3) Sharing Circle (required in order to receive credit for this assignment)
  - Over a two-day period, we will spend time sharing our written ideas out loud with the class. I will use this as a way to gauge your understanding of your own written work. Collectively we will use this as a way to learn from each other and informally sharpen our speaking skills, as well as a jumping off point for further discussion on the concepts of memory and memory loss.

**Important Note**: Students are strictly prohibited from using ChatGPT or any other outside source to complete writing assignments. If a student is caught plagiarizing with any outside source, it may result in a zero on the assignment or a rewrite.

### Significance of Memory Essay Rubric

### Claims (10 points)

Each body paragraph begins with a clear interpretive claim (topic sentence), that gives the reader a full idea as to what the substance of the body paragraph will explore. Claims within the essay show innovation and interpretation, addressing the prompt fully and in a meaningful manner.



#### **Structure/Organization (10 points)**

The essay is organized into two well-structured paragraphs (the first containing literary analysis, and the second analysis of researched evidence). Each body paragraph follows the standard TS, CD, CM, CD, CM, CS format, and each body paragraph presents a unique argument to prove in the topic sentence. Overall, the ideas develop logically throughout the entire essay, giving the essay a smooth, cohesive feel.



### **Evidence (10 points)**

Each body paragraph includes at least two well-chosen quotations to support the arguments presented. The quotations are integrated smoothly into the paragraph with fluid transitions setting up each piece of evidence. No **quote bombs!** 



### **Analysis (10 points)**

The essay provides well-supported, well-developed interpretations that remain on task in proving the thesis throughout the entire paper. Each quotation is explained in depth and detail (**close-reading**) in order to illustrate how that piece of evidence supports the argument at hand. Overall, the arguments are articulate, convincing, and cohesive.



### **Sharing Circle (Participation Credit + Required)**

The information and ideas from the essay are shared coherently and fluidly with the rest of the class during an informal sharing circle. Though you will not be graded on your presentation skills, since our goal is to work together to parse out ideas relating to the concepts at hand, your participation is **mandatory**. I will not grade your written work if you do not participate in this step. Therefore, not participating will result in a zero on the overall assignment.

