Contents

Asterisks after titles identify student writings.

Rhetorical Contents xix
Preface for the Teacher xxv
Preface for the Student xxix

CHAPTER 1  WRITING, THE "WRITING PROCESS," AND YOU  1

Literacy Narratives 10
Composing Your Own Literacy Narratives 12

CHAPTER 2  FAMILY AND COMMUNITY  15

Perspectives 17

"But who is my 'neighbor'?'"

David Brooks  People Like Us 22
"We don't really care about diversity all that much in America, even though we talk about it a great deal."

Tom Rosenberg  Changing My Name after Sixty Years 29
"I want to be remembered by the name I was born with."

Dana Wehle  We kissed the Tomato and Then the Sky 33
"This seventy-nine-year-old woman was a juggler extraordinaire, but a juggler's art is both exhilarating and unsettling to watch."

Steve Tesich  Focusing on Friends 40
"It now seems to me that I was totally monogamous when it came to male friends."

Amy Tan  Mother Tongue 44
"Lately, I've been giving more thought to the kind of English my mother speaks."
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MAHWASH SHOAIB</td>
<td>Treasures</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;This is what a child’s trove of bright and diffused memories is made up of—shared words and shared silences.&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHIRLEY GEOK-LIN LIM</td>
<td>Two Lives</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Oh Asia, that nets its children in ties of blood so binding that they cut the spirit.&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEWIS (JOHNSON) SAWAQUAT</td>
<td>For My Indian Daughter</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;I didn’t have an Indian name. I didn’t speak the Indian language.&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN EDGAR WIDEMAN</td>
<td>The Night I Was Nobody</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;One minute you’re a person, the next moment somebody starts treating you as if you’re not.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHERMAN ALEXIE</td>
<td>The Joy of Reading and Writing:</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Superman and Me</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;I loved those books, but I also knew that love had only one purpose. I was trying to save my life.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUSAN G. MADERA</td>
<td>One Voice*</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;That first, and last, semester at Brooklyn College was a dream that turned into a nightmare.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Knowing Eye</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Additional Writing Topics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CHAPTER 3  GENDER ISSUES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Perspectives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CHINESE FOLK TALE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;The simplest thing is to bottle up your wife.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GREEK LEGEND</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Apollo and Daphne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Suddenly, she felt her feet become rooted in the earth.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GELAREH ASAYESH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shrouded in Contradiction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;To wear <em>hijab</em>—Islamic covering—is to invite contradiction. Sometimes I hate it. Sometimes I value it.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DAVID BROOKS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Power of Marriage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Men are more likely to want to trade up when a younger trophy wife comes along.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTENTS ix

PAUL THEROUX The Male Myth
“I have always disliked being a man.”
101

GARY SOTO To Be a Man
“I’m looking the part and living well—the car, the house, and the suits in the closet.”
106

JERRY ROCKWOOD Life Intrudes
“If we can’t train the street fighters to be gentlemen, must we train the gentlemen to be street fighters?”
110

DENNIS ALTMAN Why Are Gay Men So Feared?
“In many societies, the links between men are stronger than the relations that link them to women.”
114

ANNA QUINDLEN Gay
“At that moment he understood that it would be more soothing to his parents to think he was a heroin addict than that he was a homosexual.”
117

GILLIANNE N. DUNCAN Why Do We Hate Our Bodies?
“My answer, the world is run by men and a small number of over achieving women with low self-esteem.”
121

JASON BARONE The Gravity of Mark Buehrle
“He has since moved to Cleveland, and while we are now able to get along, it’s more of a friendly relationship than that of father and son. His words no longer carry any weight.”
125

LESLEE NORRIS Blackberries
“And the child began to understand that they were different people; his father, his mother, himself, and that he must learn sometimes to be alone.”
129

The Knowing Eye 136

Additional Writing Topics 138

CHAPTER 4 EDUCATION 139

Perspectives 141

CROW LEGEND The Creation of the Crow World
“This land is the best of the lands I have made . . .”
144
CONTENTS

LINDA HOGAN   Dwellings
    "I wanted a room apart from others, a hidden cabin
to rest in."

CHEROKEE PAUL MCDONALD   A View from the Bridge
    "He was a lumpy little guy with baggy shorts, a faded
T-shirt and heavy sweat socks falling down over old
sneakers."

CHANG-RAE LEE   Mute in an English-Only World
    "In the first years we lived in America, my mother
could speak only the most basic English, and she often
encountered great difficulty when she went out."

JOSÉ TORRES   A Letter to a Child Like Me
    "Most of all, you should learn that it's you who are
responsible for your future."

MARJORIE AGOSÍN   Always Living in Spanish
    "Only at night, writing poems in Spanish, could I return
to my senses, and soothe my own sorrow over what
I had left behind."

ROLANDO JORIF   Thinking
    "Freedom, I learned, was a secret and it meant being
all alone in the crowd."

TOM MONTGOMERY-FATE   Dancing Geckos
    "The children were teaching me a central tenet
of cross-cultural work: vulnerability is not weakness."

TONI CADE BAMBARA   The Lesson
    "And Miss Moore asking us do we know what money is,
like we a bunch of retards. I mean real money . . ."

DORIS VILORIA   The Mistress of Make Believe*
    "How many of you are ready to let your imagination
take you off to distant mystical hands?"

LAURA KUEHN   From Dropout to Graduate*
    "My education is priceless to me. It is something that
no one can take away."

Literacy Narratives

PAULE MARSHALL   from Poets in the Kitchen
    "... they talked-endlessly, passionately, poetically,
and with impressive range. No subject was beyond
them."
VINCENT CREMONA  My Pen Writes in Blue and White*  206
“Learning to see things from these two different points of view has a dramatic effect on the way I communicate.”

The Knowing Eye  210

Additional Writing Topics  213

CHAPTER 5 WORK  215

Perspectives  217

GENESIS 3:1–9  The Fall  219
“You shall gain your bread by the sweat of your brow/until you return to the ground.”

CHIEF SMOHALLA AS TOLD BY HERBERT J. SPINDEN  My Young Men Shall Never Work  221
“Men who work cannot dream and wisdom comes in dreams.”

MICHAEL DORRIS  Life Stories  223
“The summer I was eighteen a possibility arose for a rotation at the post office, and I grabbed it.”

ANDREW CURRY  Why We Work  231
“Ringing cell phones, whirring faxes, and ever-present e-mail have blurred the lines between work and home.”

RENÉE LOTH  Measuring Success  237
“Once I actually entered the world of work, however, I learned that success is not so easy to define.”

GARY SOTO  Black Hair  240
“There are two kinds of work: one uses the mind and the other uses muscle.”

ELLEN ULLMAN  Getting Close to the Machine  248
“I once had a job in which I didn’t talk to anyone for two years.”

R. K. NARAYAN  Forty-Five a Month  254
“There shouldn’t be anything more urgent than the office work; go back to your seat.”

LALITA GANDBHIR  Free and Equal  261
“He was convinced that he would not get a job if Americans were available . . .”
MICHAEL GNOLFO  A View of Affirmative Action
  in the Workplace*  269
  "The time is right for another step in the evolution
  of American society."

The Knowing Eye  272

Additional Writing Topics  274

CHAPTER 6  TRADITIONS  277

Perspectives  279

AFRICAN LEGEND  In the Beginning: Bantu Creation Story  282
  "In the beginning, in the dark, there was nothing
  but water."

QUICHÉ-MAYAN LEGEND  Quiché-Mayan Creation Story  284
  "Before the world was created, Calm and Silence were
  the great kings that ruled."

JOHN KING FAIRBANK  Footbinding  286
  "... it was certainly ingenious how men trapped
  women into mutilating themselves ..."

NATIVE AMERICAN MYTH  The Algonquin Cinderella  293
  "... the wicked sister would burn her hands and feet
  with hot cinders ..."

TONI MORRISON  Cinderella’s Stepsisters  297
  "I am alarmed by the violence that women do to each
  other: professional violence, competitive violence,
  emotional violence."

N. SCOTT MOMADAY  from The Way to Rainy Mountain  301
  "Her name was Aho, and she belonged to the last
  culture to evolve in North America."

YAELE YARIMI  Seven Days of Mourning*  307
  "... I find myself torn apart between the home I am trying
  to establish with my American husband, and the great, rich
  and embracing tradition I have left in my land of birth."

SALMAN RUSHDIE  from Imaginary Homelands  312
  "It may be argued that the past is a country from
  which we have all emigrated, that its loss is part
  of our common humanity."
Gautam Bhatia  
New (and Improved?) Delhi  
“In India, like everywhere else, building had become a device to display forms of new abundance and make them available to a growing market of consumers.”  

Shirley Jackson  
The Lottery  
“... the whole lottery took less than two hours ... to allow the villagers to get home for noon dinner.”  

Mark Fineman  
Stone-Throwing in India: An Annual Bash  
“I have seen people with eyes bulging out, ears sheared off, noses broken, teeth shattered, skulls and legs fractured to bits.”  

The Knowing Eye  

Additional Writing Topics  

Chapter 7  Cultural Encounters  

Perspectives  

Senegalese Myth  
The Falsehood of Truth  
“Go tell the king that a man is here who can raise people from the dead.”  

Jewish Folktale as Told by Moses Gaster  
The Wise Rogue  
“On the way to the gallows he said to the governor that he knew a wonderful secret, and it would be a pity to allow it to die with him ...”  

Garrett Hongo  
Fraternity  
“I was hated one day, and with an intensity I could not have foreseen.”  

Taneisha Grant  
To Speak Patois*  
“At fourteen years old, I thought I knew everything there was to know about everything worth knowing-life, people, and relationships.”  

Linda Stanley  
Passion and the Dream  
“They have come from so far with so many hopes to this city, the possessors of the same brave American Dream that all immigrants to America have dreamed.”  

Alton Fitzgerald White  
Ragtime, My Time  
“I was a victim. They had guns.”
Michael T. Kaufman  Of My Friend Hector and My Achilles’ Heel 369
“This story is about prejudice and stupidity. My own.”

Tim O’Brien  The Man I Killed. 373
“. . . Tim, it’s a war. The guy wasn’t Heidi—he had a weapon, right? It’s a tough thing, for sure, but you got to cut out that staring.”

Literacy Narratives 379

Gloria Naylor  What’s in a Name? 379
“So there must have been dozens of times that the word ‘nigger’ was spoken in front of me before I reached the third grade. But I didn’t ‘hear’ it until it was said by a small pair of lips that had already learned it could be a way to humiliate me.”

Kenneth Woo  Konglish* 383
“But how can a typical Korean-American have a gift of writing poems? It made no sense to me.”

The Knowing Eye 389

Additional Writing Topics 392

Chapter 8  Choices 393

Perspectives 395

Swahili Folktale  The Wise Daughter 397
“Eat, you three fools.”

Richard Rodriguez  To the Border 400
“They were men without women. They were Mexicans without Mexico.”

Audre Lorde  The Fourth of July 406
“American racism was a new and crushing reality that my parents had to deal with every day of their lives once they came to this country.”

Marcus Mabry  Living in Two Worlds 411
“Living in my grandmother’s house this Christmas break restored all the forgotten, and the never acknowledged, guilt.”
RAMÓN "TIANGUIS" PÉREZ  The Fender-Bender 415
"If you'd rather, we can report him to Immigration, the cop continues."

HANA WEHLE  Janushinka 419
"... Also the lights in the nursery were turned out, the curtains drawn. The chuckle of Janushinka was silenced."

JOSEPH STEFFAN  Honor Bound 425
"And I firmly believe that if I had been willing to lie about my sexuality, to deny my true identity, I would have been allowed to graduate."

SCOTT RUSSELL SANDERS  Homeplace 430
"Claims for the virtues of moving on are familiar and seductive to Americans, this nation founded by immigrants and shaped by restless seekers."

GABRIEL GARCÍA MÁRQUEZ  One of These Days 437
"Now you'll pay for our twenty dead men."

YAMIT NASSIRI  Flight by Night* 442
"Yet accepting American values has not made me forget my own customs and traditions."

The Knowing Eye 446

Additional Writing Topics 449

CHAPTER 9  POPULAR CULTURE 451

Perspectives 453

CHARLES MCGRATH  The Pleasures of the Text 456
"Compared with the rest of the world, Americans are actually laggards when it comes to text-messaging."

ROBYN MEREDITH  Big Mall's Curfew Raises Questions of Rights and Bias 461
"Young people and adults agree that the teenagers can be obnoxious. They race down the halls in groups, scattering shoppers in their paths. They use foul language when shouting to their friends two floors above. Some even drop food or spit over the railings, aiming at shoppers below."
JOHN MISAK  Is That Video Game Programming You?  467
"Killing's a global business, and as it appears, business is good. Billions of dollars good. With more to come."

TOM LEE  A Timeless Culture*  474
"What is the perfectly disjunct vision that separates Toni Morrison from Stephen King; the picture-perfect image that separates Ansel Adams from the paparazzi; what is that perfect fifth that separates The Beatles and Public Enemy?"

JAMES GEASOR  Whatever Happened to Rock 'n' Roll?*  478
"Most popular music concerts today resemble aerobics videos with a soundtrack of sterile music, lip-synched vocals, and performers who care more about image and choreography than musical content."

TODD CRAIG  ... well if you can't hold the torch ... then why pass it ...?  483
"While we have seen in hip-hop music a time where two to three generations are listening to the same genre of music, this can indeed be a time where they are all listening to the same artist, the same album—the same exact music. But youth culture indeed functions off the premise of rebellion. It is an ironic twist of fate that can and will truly be a test and testament to hip-hop music and culture as we know it."

MARTIN KUTNOWSKI  "I wouldn't have nothing if I didn't have you"  491
"The moral of the story is profound: it's always better to communicate with children through humor and kindness, rather than using abusive means."

STEPHEN KING  Why We Crave Horror Movies  496
"If we are all insane, then sanity becomes a matter of degree."

BARRY PETERS  Arnie's Test Day  500
"So Arnie and his parents spent three hours at the hospital, where Arnie read People magazine instead of Introduction to Physics while waiting for the doctors to report Grampa's condition."
The Knowing Eye 504

Additional Writing Topics 507

Rhetorical and Cultural Glossary 511

Geographic Index 519

Credits 523