Opening Activity: Read my own “who am I” description/introduction…

*Is there anything you like? Anything you want to borrow or mimic?*

Hello everyone! Over the last few years, I have come to realize that I am not only a teacher of writing, but I am a writer myself. It seems like a natural connection—in order to teach people how to write, you should probably know how to write! True. However, I never really realized that my writing identity could be both personal and professional. I love to make writing samples for my classes, but I love to write for myself even more.

This is my creative writing electronic portfolio, and it will house some of my own work as well as work that has been created by my students. Before you start to explore, you need to get to know me. So here are my top three roles in life that best define me:

1. **I am a teacher**—I am still in school, but I got my teaching degree in 2009 from Western Michigan University and my master’s from Michigan State in 2013. I love my job and have done it for six years now. There is just so much I could say about English and Language Arts, but I will keep it simple; seeing kids write and read creatively is the best part of my job. Hands down.
2. **I am homebody**—When I am not working on my school work, I love to be at home, on the couch, sweatpants on, the remote in my hand, and my family (my family being my husband, my son, Ruty, and our other two furry children—a cat and a dog) at my side. I can be plenty lazy when I want to be, but it is rare during the school year.
3. **I am a renovator extraordinaire!**—My husband and I have been working on renovating our old Victorian house in Union City since we moved in, in 2010. Fixing up our house obviously conflicts with role #2 and being lazy, but we are moving along, scraping wallpaper, sanding floors, painting trim. It is hectic, but it is something I am proud of.

Writer’s Notebook Response—so who are you? Write your own introduction…

Objective: I want you to be able to share and celebrate all that you will accomplish this year in creative writing, and to do that, I will have you create a portfolio. However, this won’t be just any portfolio—this will be a portfolio that you will share ***online.***

The benefits of online portfolios are HUGE:

1. You will never lose it—it saves it in that wonderful unlimited space we call the internet.
2. You have a huge audience—you can share this with parents, friends, colleges, etc.
3. You can update it as you go!

The Process:

1. You need to make a “weebly” account. Go to weebly.com and get started.
2. Once you have established your account, pick a style or layout for your website.
3. Now, you need to create some pages…specifically a:

* **Home Page**—with your own personal introduction
* **A “What is Creativity” Page**—where you will upload or type in your 1st draft of the “What is Creativity” response you did in week one of our class.
* **A “What I am reading” Page**—this is where you will report about your favorite things to read as well as what you are reading in class currently.
* **Other?** Is there something else you want to share? Past work? A blog? Share some ideas with me!

1. When you finish, you need to e-mail me a link to your webpage which I will share on my own web page for future class projects.

**My e-mail is: rutana@harpercreek.net**

1. View my sample if needed: <http://mrsrutanhchs.weebly.com/>

So what am I asking you to do??? Assignment reflection: