

# **This I Believe Final Assessment**

## *Essay and Podcast*

### **Objective:**

To create a personal essay and use informative, narrative, and argumentative writing as well as strong leads, literary devices, and grammar techniques. To also explore the need for revision and how personal voice (like an audio recording and podcast) can influence an essay.

### **Consider the following questions:**

- *What do I believe in and why?*
- *How can I explain my belief through stories, examples, and details?*
- *How can I draw my reader in and keep their interest?*
- *How does revision help my writing grow and evolve into a final draft?*
- *How can I incorporate my own personal voice into an essay?*

This essay will demonstrate what you have learned in our first (foundational) writing unit. You will use mentor texts and sample essays to help inspire you. You will also apply the literary elements (like metaphor, repetition, imagery, etc..) and grammar techniques (like semi-colons, simple sentences, etc.) to help create personal voice and style to your writing. Finally, you will record your final essay so your own voice narrates what you believe and why.

### **The Process:**

Think about some of the things that you believe in. They could be abstract ideas, like love or courage. They could also be more concrete, like sports or pets. Or it could be completely unique and unexpected, like “I believe in pancakes...”

After pinpointing your belief, think about details and personal examples that help illustrate it and use literary devices and narrative to help create your essay. Your essay is a great opportunity to play with paragraph structure, powerful introductions, and varying sentence structure (grammar techniques). Your essay will go through several series of drafts and revisions, both in your writer’s notebook and on the computer. When you finish your essay, you will record yourself reading it out loud so this truly becomes your own personal essay with your own personal voice.

### **Requirements:**

- Several drafts, both on a computer and in your writer’s notebooks.
- A draft submitted to your teacher for review and feedback.
- Revisions (scribbles on your drafts)
- One final polished draft
- An audio recording/podcast

### **Notes/Reflections:**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_/100pts

Score:

	<b>4-Awesome</b>	<b>3-Got It</b>	<b>2-Almost</b>	<b>1-Not Quite</b>
<b>Format</b>	I have the appropriate MLA format and header (5pts).	***	I have most of the appropriate MLA format and header (3pts).	I fail to use the MLA format and header and/or there are several errors (0-2pts)
<b>Content</b>	<p>I have a creative, inventive title (5pts).</p> <p>I picked a great, unique, original essay topic (5pts).</p> <p>I have a thoughtful, creative, and complete personal essay explaining what I believe (19-20pts).</p> <p>I include a polished, clear, and complete final audio piece (15pts).</p>	<p>I have an appropriate title (4pts)</p> <p>I picked an appropriate and clear essay topic (4pts)</p> <p>I have a solid, somewhat creative, and complete personal essay; I clearly explain what I believe, but some may be cliché (16-18pts).</p> <p>I include a clear and complete final audio piece (12-14pts).</p>	<p>I have a basic title and/or it is just the name of the assignment (3pts).</p> <p>I picked a somewhat clear essay topic, but it is somewhat generic or unoriginal (3pts).</p> <p>I have a somewhat solid and complete personal essay, but it has several moments of mediocrity; I show limited explanation of what I believe (12-15pts).</p> <p>I include a somewhat clear and complete final piece of audio, but it needs a little more polish (9-11pts).</p>	<p>I am missing a title (0pts).</p> <p>I picked a weak essay topic that is very generic and/or unclear (0-2pts).</p> <p>I have a weak and/or incomplete personal essay. I attempt to explain what I believe but it is rushed, too short, and/or confusing (0-10pts).</p> <p>I fail to include a final piece of audio and/or it is confusing, incomplete, and/or unclear (0-8pts).</p>
<b>Voice</b>	I show that I carefully and creatively consider	I show that I consider my audience with	I show that I consider my audience somewhat, but my	I do not consider my audience and/or my details, style, and

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	my audience with my details, style, and language (10pts).	my details, style, and language (8-9pts).	details, style, and language are limited (6-7pts).	language is confusing, unclear, or inappropriate (0-5pts).
<b>Organization</b>	I have thoughtful organization; the introduction, body, and conclusion of my essay are creative, and effective (20pts).  I adhere to the word of 350- 500 words (5pts).	I have appropriate organization; my introduction, body, and conclusion are clear (16-18pts).  ***	I have basic organization; my introduction, body, and conclusion are somewhat clear, but generic and limited (12-15pts).  I am close to the 350-500 word count (3pts).	I have weak organization; my introduction, body and conclusion are poor, confusing, and/or incomplete (0-10pts).  I fail to adhere to the word count (0pts).
<b>Revisions</b>	I show many timely revised drafts and one polished final draft that look at: word choice, literary devices, leads etc. (10pts).	I show several timely revised drafts and one polished final draft that look at: word choice, literary devices, leads, etc. (8-9pts).	I show some timely revised drafts and one polished final draft, but my revisions are basic and brief (6-7pts).	I fail to show few, if any, revised drafts and/or I fail to show meaningful or effective revisions. My drafts might also be late (0-5pts).
<b>Mechanics</b>	I have great, inventive mechanics and few, if any, errors (5pts).	I have solid mechanics and may have a couple errors (4pts).	I have basic mechanics and several errors (3pts).	I have poor mechanics and many distracting errors (0-2pts).

CCW 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5, 12.6, 12.10,  
CCSL 12.6  
CCL 12.1, 12.2, 12.3,

### **Comments/Feedback:**