**Lesson plan for Friday, September 6th, 2013**

* According to the Common Core Standards, this is what defines strong narrative writing:

To put it more simply, good narration, whether it is based on real-life experience or it comes from the imagination, is developed and structured logically with creative details.

* It presents a situation or conflict. It comes from a specific point of view. It might have a narrator. It has developed characters (people in the narration). The event being told is ordered logically and therefore, it is easy to follow.
* It might contain dialogue, or multiple story lines. It is paced appropriately—the narration builds logically to a climax.
* The story is sequenced in a way that is logical and easy to follow, but it might use foreshadowing, flashback and exposition to keep the chronology from getting boring.
* It is descriptive and full of creative and original sensory detail, but not to the point of overkill. Words, phrases and details are chosen carefully for precision of meaning, as well as for creative and artistic effect.
* The conclusion is a great place to reflect on the meaning of the experience, especially in autobiographical narration.

1. Read the handout from pages one to three, outlining what admissions officers from top universities are looking for in college application autobiographical narratives.

2. Read the two samples carefully. These are real samples, inspired from real college application prompts. The students who wrote these narratives were accepted into prestigious universities.

3. Using the standards and the info from the admissions officers, analyze what makes these two samples effective narration. Bullet your findings **thoroughly and in-depth** on your own sheet of paper. We are going with the assumption that these are strong examples because they were published in a book full of strong examples and their authors did get into universities like Harvard. If you don’t think they are good, you are entitled to your feelings, but you still have to analyze them for their strengths.

4. These two examples will serve as models for your own autobiographical essay. You will address the following prompt in 500-650 words:

***Evaluate a significant experience, achievement, risk you have taken, or ethical dilemma you have faced and its impact on you.***

5. This is a real college admissions prompt!! This narrative will be due September 20th. It will be evaluated by AP seniors here at Valencia. It should reflect your very best effort!!