Kitchen Table Time Machine

Freestyle Writing Exercise: Memoir

• Explain that memoir is an essay about personal knowledge or experience. To assist students in a memoir based activity discuss favorite meals and foods with class.

• Ask students if they can think of a special time they had this meal or food. What made it special? Was it a birthday or holiday? Did someone special to them like a grandma or parent make it?

• Work with students to create a word bank for their own paragraphs by working through the five senses. Ask students to share their writing at the end of the exercise.

• Example of students writing about their favorite food can be found at http://www.layouth.com/essay-contest-whats-your-favorite-food/.

• Current news articles documenting the popularity of memoir can also be used during this activity to show students one of the many ways they can make a career as a writer.