LANGUAGE

# The Inquir

# **GRADE 7 UNIT 1: SENSITIVITY IN MEMOIRS**

# READING AND WRITING MEMOIRS

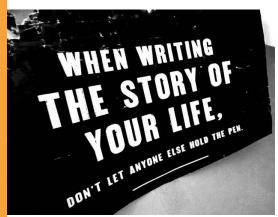
Everyone has a story to tell. When I announce to my students that we will learn

write a memoir, I often hear 'But Miss Jenny, our lives aren't very

interesting! How can we write a memoir?' Through the study of

memoirs, and analyzing the important traits of a good memoir, students begin to see that the most interesting stories are hidden in our daily life; hidden in connections we make between what we have learned and experienced. A great memoir manages to create a bond between the author and the reader. Through a study of numerous examples of memoirs appropriate for the student's reading levels, we will explore how writers make use of reflection to make sense of prior experiences. In turn, by letting

someone into our minds and hearts we create sensitivity and understanding for our perspectives, and even allow the reader to identify with our feelings and struggles. The students will engage in a variety of different texts relating to memoirs, including poetry, non-fictional texts on writing memoirs, as well as plenty of guided and independent reading of memoirs. Ultimately, the students will produce and publish their own collection of personal memoirs.



## Dear Parents.

# **ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:**

What is a memoir and what is the purpose of it?

How do memoirs help us to make meaning of our lives?

How do writers use reflection to make use of prior experiences?

How do memoirs generate sensitivity within the reader?

How do we write and publish our own memoir?

to