

ENGL 150-B
Writing Exercises

Week One

- Syntactic imitation of Kafka's "Before the Law"
- Describe the seemingly boring corridor outside our classroom to point out how it is not, in fact, as boring as it may strike some of us at first sight. (Recollection/Observation)
- Syntactic imitation of a paragraph or a page from Saunders' "Commcomm" or "Sea Oak"

Week Two

- The last great story you heard or overheard
- "I don't know why..." (LaPlante)

Week Three

- List of images from the day
- 5-minute poem
- Rescuing an orphaned book from the library, writing an imaginary biography/obituary of its author

Week Four

- OPTIONAL but highly encouraged: Pick any one of the exercises from Chapters 3 & 4 of LaPlante

Week Five

- Maze/Dog exercise (700 words minimum)

Week Six

- Walser/Bronte microscripts + LaPlante's "What everyone knows about X..." + "But what *I* know about X."

Week Seven

- Persona poem from the point of view of someone involved with the euthanasia roller coaster or this genetic condition
- Remember to bring the orphaned book! (Or a different orphaned book you found under the same criteria): select 10 sentences/phrases/word-clusters, build a poem using *only* your selection, nothing more. Use everything!

Week Fourteen

- When I was seven / When my character was an adult / What I watched
- Weird kid sestinas