**STEP 1:** Make a list of facts about yourself.  
\* Where do you live?  
\* How many siblings do you have?  
\* What are your favorite things to do?  
\* What are your favorite foods?  
\* What feelings do you have?  
\* What is an important event in your life?  
Don’t worry about spelling or grammar when writing your list. Don’t worry about how your words will turn into a memoir. Just write!  
Now, choose a word or two (or more!) from your list.   
  
**Step 2: Word Play:** In SIX WORDS, summarize some aspect of who you are or an event that has changed your life. To practice you will be writing between **ten and fifteen** six-word memoirs. Each memoir must:

* Contain exactly **6 words**.
* Have correct or appropriate **spelling, grammar, capitalization** and

#### punctuation.

**Additionally**, complete the **brainstorming sketch sheet** for three memoirs you may want to illustrate. This sheet does not need to be anywhere near perfect or complete. It is just meant to get you thinking about how you might illustrate some of your six-word memoirs.

Use mainly nouns and verbs!  
Be specific.  
Be honest.  
Forget the thesaurus.  
Use your speaking voice.  
Experiment with structure.  
Don’t try too hard. Just write from your heart

.

**Step 3 – The Presentation:** Choose the best six words from your brainstorming list. Once you have chosen your SIX WORDS for your memoir, you will make a two-slide PowerPoint.   
  
**The first slide** will be your memoir, an illustration the supports the topic or theme, your name, and a photo of yourself.   
  
**On the second slide**, you will write a one-paragraph explanation of your memoir. What does it mean? How is it about you? You will also include an illustration the supports the topic or theme, your name, and a photo of yourself.

**Example Memoirs**

Michael Daly

**Found true love after nine months.**

I never really felt very strongly about children. In fact, I often felt that when parents talked about how "they didn't know what true love was until they had a child" was a bit much. When my wife was pregnant I was very curious about what it would be like to be a father, but I didn't feel any real emotion for the child growing in the womb. When Shepherd was finally born it felt in a strange way that I was born to. I cannot believe how much I love the little guy.  
  
This is an example of a strong six-word memoir.   
This memoir is about an important event in the author’s life.  
The memoir is only six words- no longer, no shorter.  
The memoir includes a graphic that supports the topic/theme.  
The second slide includes an explanation of what the memoir means and how it relates to the author.  
The memoir includes the graphic, a photo of the author, and the author’s name on both slides.  
The presentation is correct according to the rubric.

**\*\*\*SPOT AND CORRECT THE GRAMMAR FAIL IN THE PASSAGE!!**

Lionel Messi  
**Scored a goal; felt very proud.**

When I was seven, I scored my first goal in a soccer game. I felt very proud. I had never scored a goal before and was very excited. Now, I’ve scored lots of goals in lots of games.

This is an example of a mediocre   
six-word memoir.   
This memoir is about an event in the author’s life. Is this really an important event, though?  
The memoir is six words- no longer, no shorter.  
The memoir includes a graphic that supports the topic/theme.  
The second slide includes an explanation of what the memoir means and how it relates to the author. The explanation is not strong, though. It doesn’t support that this was an important event.  
The memoir includes the graphic, a photo of the author, and the author’s name on one slide.  
The presentation is mostly correct according to the rubric.

**I’m a cheerleader and like it. I think it is fun. But it is hard.**

This is an example of a weak six-word memoir.   
This memoir is not about the author; it is about cheerleading in general.  
The memoir is not six words. The + is not a word. In fact, the rubric states that symbols (&, +, @, etc.) should not be used.  
The memoir does include a graphic that supports the topic/theme.  
The second slide includes an explanation of what the memoir means, but the explanation is weak.  
The memoir includes the graphic, but it is missing a photo of the author and the author’s name.  
The presentation is partly correct according to the rubric  
   
**REMEMBER:** If you do not want your memoir displayed, please clearly include this symbol in the lower right-hand corner of your explanation slide. Related image