

Y3 Chreia/Maxim Stage Writing Class

TOG 2017-2018

Dear Fellow TOG Moms:

This year we will continue to phase in Memoria Press' Classical Composition writing curriculum into our TOG co-op. As you know, this curriculum is based on the classical approach to writing, which has been in existence since the ancient Greeks and Romans. This year we will continue to build on the skills they have learned in the first two stages, the Fable and Narrative stages. The Chreia/Maxim stage will be quite different from the previous stages, as students will be learning how to write an 8-point essay, preparing them for rhetoric-level and eventually college-level writing. You may find samples from the workbook [here](#). The first half of the year will be primarily devoted to Classical Composition, while the second half of the year will be focused on mastering the Chreia/Maxim stage as well as working on writing in a more traditional style. Second semester writing assignments will include a historical biography, poetry, persuasive essay, process essay, compare/contrast essay, and finally, we'll try our hand at writing a short play. It is my sincere desire to not only improve your student's writing abilities, but to ensure the writing assignments are challenging and interesting.

Each student will be provided a Classical Composition workbook, so there is no need to purchase a book separately. Many of the workbooks we will be using have a few lessons already missing from them that were used this past year in the pre-rhetoric writing class. Using the workbooks will save quite a bit of money and make sure that we are not wasting useable resources. During class, students will be expected to take notes and participate in class discussions. They will also be expected to do their homework between co-ops, unless you have adjusted their workload at home. If this is the case, please be sure to let me know beforehand, so I can adjust my expectations accordingly. ***I highly encourage students to get into a habit of working on writing for 15-20 minutes every day so that the workload does not become overwhelming for them.*** Most of the homework will be done on the workbook pages that are provided, however, they will also need access to a computer to type their final drafts of each assignment. Final drafts must be double-spaced and contain no spelling or grammar errors. A dictionary or thesaurus will also be helpful, although the computer can be used to look up words as well.

Writing Supplies:

1 Binder (students can use a large TOG binder as long as it has a separate section for writing)

Notebook paper

Optional: Dictionary or Thesaurus

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have. My hope is that this will be an outstanding year of writing where you see your student's writing skills increase!!

Blessings,

Phyllis Green

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