

## All Assignments for In-Class Allegorical Narrative

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### NARRATIVE PROMPT

Write a modern re-telling of a parable in the Bible. Jesus told parables in order to help his disciples and followers better understand spiritual concepts. Your story will do the same thing by using situations common in today's world to represent important ideas in Christianity. While you may write as creatively as you like, remember your primary objective: to clearly relay the deeper meaning of your chosen parable.

### PREPARATION

#### 1. Choose a parable from the following list:

[The Sower](#)

(Matthew 13, Mark 4, Luke 8)

[The Pearl of Great Price](#)

(Matthew 13:45-46)

[The Unmerciful Servant](#)

(Matthew 18:21-35)

[The Laborers in the Vineyard](#)

(Matthew 20:1-16)

[The Good Samaritan](#)

(Luke 10:30-37)

[The Pharisee and the Publican](#)

(Luke 18:9-14)

[The Prodigal Son](#)

(Luke 15:11-32)

[The Rich Fool](#)

(Luke 12:13-21)

[The Unjust Steward](#)

(Luke 16:1-9)

#### 2. Examine the Parable and Write a Summary – see Pacing Guide for due date

Sit down with a parent to discuss the parable you have chosen. In order to accurately “retell” this parable in a modern way, you need to first understand its meaning thoroughly.

Then, write a paragraph that summarizes and interprets the parable. Your paragraph should be typed in MLA format and contain the following elements:

- Solid topic sentence that names the parable
- Summary of the parable (2-4 sentences)
- Explanation of the parable's meaning (2-3 sentences)

Use descriptive, formal writing. See the grading rubric on a following page for detailed writing requirements. Quotes should not be used. You must summarize and explain the parable entirely in your own words. A works cited page is not required.

Note: Please underline the sentences in your paragraph which interpret and explain the parable's meaning.

### 3. Plan In-Class Narrative: Plot Diagram and Character Descriptions

Brainstorm your plot and characters. Create a basic plot diagram, a story chart, along with a list of character names and basic character descriptions to help guide you during the in-class writing process. These may be handwritten or typed as you prefer.

Your plot diagram and character list will be submitted with your in-class narrative for a combined grade. **ALL INFORMATION ON THE PLOT DIAGRAM AND CHARACTER LIST MUST BE WRITTEN IN NOTE FORM ONLY!** No complete sentences. Leave the writing process for your time in class.

Your story must contain all the following:

- A creative title
- Five paragraphs
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Paragraph: Exposition – introduce setting, characters, and conflict
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Paragraph: Rising Action
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Paragraph: Climax
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Paragraph: Falling Action and Resolution
- Strong, descriptive language that engages your reader’s senses and/or emotions
- Good transitions and logical organization

Note: Character dialogue is not required. The entire story may be told by the “narrator” if you prefer.

### IN-CLASS NARRATIVE DAY

On writing day, you will be given the entire class time to write your story (about 50 minutes). You’ll need to arrive to class prepared with all of the following:

- Your favorite writing utensil(s). Pencil or blue/black ink only.
- Several sheets of lined paper.
- A printed copy of your plot diagram and character descriptions.
- A book to read quietly if you finish early.

# Parable Summary - Grading Rubric

Parents: Together with your student, revise the paragraph using this rubric as a guide. Then, score the items in the left column only, and sign and date this form. Students should staple this sheet BEHIND their printed paragraph.

## ITEMS GRADED BY PARENT

Each checkbox in the left column is worth ½ point. Together, you may continue making revisions until full points are earned.

### MLA Formatting:

- 1-inch margins on all sides.
- Double-spaced. No extra space between paragraphs. (i.e. set paragraph spacing to 0 “before” and “after”)
- Times New Roman, 12-pt font. (including header)
- Header: includes student’s last name, a space, and page number; upper right corner of every page, ½ inch from top.
- On the first page, aligned left:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Line: Student’s First and Last Name
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Line: Tutor’s Name (spelled correctly)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Line: Course Name
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Line: Date formatted like: 15 August 2023
- The paragraph title is centered and properly capitalized on the 5<sup>th</sup> line. (*not bold, not italics, not underlined*)
- The paragraph begins on the 6<sup>th</sup> line.
- The first line of the paragraph is indented ½ inch.

### Word Choice:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> person voice ONLY (*he, she, it, they*)  
(No 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> person: *I, me, you, your, we, us, our, etc.*)
- No contractions

### Paragraph Components:

- Minimum of 5 sentences. (6-8 is better)
- Interpretation/Explanation sentences are underlined.

Parent Points: \_\_\_\_\_ / 6

## ITEMS TO BE GRADED BY TUTOR

Use this list as a guide to help with paragraph revisions but do not mark the items in this column.

### Paragraph Content and Style:

- 2 1 0 Topic Sentence: names the parable and introduces the summary.
- 2 1 0 Summary: 2-4 sentences that retell the key figures and main events in the parable in the writer’s own words. No quotes.
- 2 1 0 Explanation: 2-3 sentences that clearly interpret and explain the parable’s deeper meaning.
- 1 0 Sentence Openers: at least 3 different types. (noun, -ed, -ing, adverb, prep. phrase, clause)
- 1 0 Transitions: words or phrases to connect ideas as needed. (can double as sentence openers)
- 1 0 Syntax: complete sentences, no run-ons or sentence fragments.
- 1 0 Communication: clear and logical; no awkward phrasing; formal language, no slang
- 2 1 0 Word Choice: strong, descriptive words; limit of 2 “be” verbs; varied vocabulary, not repetitive.
- 1 0 Tense: uses literary present tense when discussing characters and events in the parable.
- 1 0 Editing: proper grammar, punctuation, spelling.

Final Point Total: \_\_\_\_\_ / 20

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_