EN131 - COLLEGE ENGLISH I  
Topics & Suggested Assignments

TOPICAL OUTLINE TEMPLATE  
***See individual instructors’ supplementary outlines for detailed information about courses reflecting specific learning community themes and assignments and plans unique to individual sections.

Week 1  
Introduction to EN131 - Course Description/Syllabus/Exit Requirements  
Autobiography: *Dust Tracks on a Road* (Foreword)  
Journal/Reflection writing

Week 2  
MONDAY — Labor Day Holiday (No Class)  
Diagnostic Testing: Writing and Grammar  
Autobiography: *Dust Tracks on a Road* (Chapters 1, 2, 3)  
SAMPLE WRITING ASSIGNMENT: ESSAY  TOPIC “My Birthplace, My Folks, I Get Born”

Week 3  
Writing Skills Review: Sentence Structure  
Autobiography: *Dust Tracks on a Road* (Chapters 4, 5, 6)  
Discussion: The Essay (Introduction, Thesis Statement)  
ESSAY # 1: Narrative

Week 4  
Writing Skills Review: Regular/irregular, Verb Tense, Subject/Verb Agreement  
Library: MLA Electronic Research Workshop (Zora Neale Hurston/Harlem Renaissance)  
Autobiography: *Dust Tracks on a Road* (Chapters 7, 8, 9)  
Discussion: The Essay (Body, Transitional Words/Phrases)

Week 5  
Writing Skills Review: Grammar (prepositions, pronoun-antecedent etc.)  
Discussion: The Essay (Conclusion – Transitional Words/Phrases)  
Autobiography: *Dust Tracks on a Road* (Chapters 10, 11, 12)  
ESSAY # 2: Descriptive

Week 6  
Writing Skills: Punctuation and Mechanics  
Autobiography: *Dust Tracks on a Road* (Chapters 13, 14, 15, 16)  
Journal/Reflection writing

Week 7  
MIDTERM EXAM  
MIDTERM ESSAY (ESSAY # 3 – Comparison/Contrast)

Week 8  
MLA – Introduction to Fiction, “Thirty-Eight Who Saw Murder Didn’t Call the Police,” Martin Ginsberg  
*Dust Tracks ... Road* Appendix – “My People, My People” (Collaborative Activity)  
Journal/Reflection writing

Week 9  
*Dust Tracks...Road* Appendix: “Seeing the World As It Is,” & “The Inside Light –Being a Salute to Friendship”  
ESSAY # 4: Definition

Week 10  
Fiction: “Only Daughter” Sandra Cisneros  
*Dust Tracks... Road* Appendix: “Concert,” & “Afterword”  
Journal/Reflection Writing

Week 11  
ESSAY # 5: Process  
Library: Internet Assignment for Process essay  
Media and/or Oral Presentation
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| 12   | Fiction: “New World Daughters: How Parents Raise Girls and Boys Differently and Why It’s Wrong,” Judy Mann (Comparison/Contrast)  
Journal/Reflection writing |
| 13   | Fiction: “Why We Crave Horror Movies,” Stephen King. (Cause and Effect)  
“More Abortions, Fewer Crimes?” George Will. (Argumentative)  
Essay #6: Cause and Effect or Argumentative (Choose One) |
| 14   | Fiction Quiz  
Journal/Reflection Writing |
| 15   | **FINAL REVIEW**  
**PORTFOLIOS DUE** |
| 16   | **FINAL ESSAY** |

*Source for essay readings listed above: *Bridging Literature and Composition: An Anthology* (textbook for EN 131)