

WELCOME BACK!

Bring your Writer's Notebook!

- With the approaching holiday season, it's time to reflect and prepare for our family traditions.
- Make a LIST of your family's traditions. Consider:
 - Things you do EVERY year
 - Things you used to do, but no longer take part in. Why did your family stop this tradition?
 - Traditions throughout the year, not just holidays (back to school, last day of school, Easter, Valentine's Day, Independence Day, etc.)

Pick One Tradition

- What does your family do?
- Why do you like this tradition?
- How long has this been a tradition in your family?
- How does this tradition help unite your family?

Sensory details . . .

- Setting/Location
 - ▣ List five sights associated with this tradition (What would you see?)
 - ▣ List five smells you'd encounter
 - ▣ List five sounds you'd hear
- List people who participate
 - ▣ Who prepares? Who cleans up afterward?
 - ▣ What do the adults do? What do the kids do?

Your Prompt

Family Traditions

- Many families practice important traditions that are passed down from one generation to the next. Other families start new traditions. Think about your family's traditions. What tradition does your family follow that you would like to see passed to the next generation? How is it important to you and your family?
- Write an essay in which you describe this tradition to the reader. Be sure to include specific details to illuminate this tradition for the reader.
- **As you write, remember your essay will be scored based on how well you:**
 - develop a **multi-paragraph response** to the assigned topic that clearly communicates your controlling idea to the audience.
 - support your controlling idea with **meaningful examples, reasons,** and information based upon your experiences.
 - **organize** your essay in a clear and logical manner, including an **introduction, body,** and **conclusion.**
 - use **well-structured sentences** and language that are appropriate for your audience.
 - **edit** your work to conform to the **conventions** of standard American English.