

Assignment 7

Writing Seminar

- Write the first draft of your short story, concentrating on the *beginning* of your story. Follow these directions:
 - *Write backwards*: think of the conclusion of the story first and then work backwards.
 - *Create an effect*: Think of an effect that you want to create; it can be sorrow, humor, etc.
 - *Think of length*: Before writing your work, think of how long your work will be.
 - *Think of moral or truth that you want to express*: Think of a truth that follows the effect that you have created.
 - *Think of characters*. Create characters appropriate to your story. Make your characters serve a purpose.
 - *Create a tone and mood*. The tone is the author's attitude towards what he is writing. The mood of a work is its "atmosphere" or the feeling that is created by the work.
 - *Create a structure*. Construct a plot using situational irony, repetition, dramatic irony, mistaken identity, etc.
 - *Be attentive to your words and their sound*. Choose words and create sentences that fit your work as a whole. If it is a humorous work, for example, use shorter sentences, a more colloquial style and words that understate or overstate.
 - *Create a suitable setting*. Think of the time place and situation of your work. Create a unity of time and place.
- Read the short story by Langston Hughes (pictured on the right) as inspiration for your own writing. Think of the above directions when analyzing Hughes' work.



