

## **Biography/Autobiography Analysis**

Pretend that you are a psychologist. The subject of the book you are reading has come to you for help during a trying period or crisis in his or her life.

You will be responsible for creating a file of tests and patient responses based on the following areas of focus:

- Major obstacles, triumphs, and failures in the subject's life
- Specific people who were central or important in the subject's life (relatives, friends, coworkers, etc.)
- How the historical events of the period in which the subject live(s/d) influenced him or her either positively or negatively (ex: war, poverty, gender/racial bias)
- Development of career, education, or interests

You are responsible for coming up with three tests. One of the tests must be the hypnosis method described below. You will ask the questions or present the test, as well as your patient's responses. I am most interested in the specific questions you will ask your subject, as well as his or her responses.

The following are some test methods you might want to try (we will discuss all of them in class and examples will be provided):

- Hypnosis – Ask your patient questions about his/her life, and then from the patient's point of view explain how the events have shaped or changed his/her life. You must have at least six questions and responses.
- Word Association – You will present words to your patient (ex: "I say the word medal, what does that bring to mind?"). Then you will respond as the patient with a thorough explanation. You must have at least ten words and responses. Choose your words carefully, as they must somehow relate to his/her life.
- Rorschach Test – You will create inkblots for your patient to view. Then as the patient you will describe what is seen in the inkblot, with elaboration and explanation. (Remember, the patient's responses must relate to his/her life.) You must have at least three inkblots and responses.
- Drawing Therapy – As the patient, draw a picture and then explain why he/she sees something in a certain way. (Ex: draw a picture of family members and explain why they are represented in the manner they are.) You must have at least three drawings and responses.
- Dream Interpretation – As the patient, make up and discuss a dream that somehow relates to his/her life. Then as the doctor, analyze why he/she is dreaming about certain things (Remember to relate it to the patient's life.) You must discuss and analyze at least three dreams.

I realize that this assignment requires a bit of thought and creativity, however, I am confident that you are all up for the challenge. It is not an assignment that should be completed the night before the due date!

You will be graded on how well you are able to create a file of tests using information that you have gained by reading your book. Please refer to the areas of focus mentioned at the beginning of the assignment when determining tests and responses. In addition, you will be graded on creativity, neatness, and organization. Your tests and other information must be typed. If you turn in a sloppy report that shows little or no effort, your grade will reflect your lack of effort. Please see me immediately if you have any questions or concerns about this project.

Before turning in your final assignment, check the following items:

- A. Is my project completed neatly?
- B. Is my project well organized
- C. Did I proofread for errors?
- D. Is my project creative?
- E. Did I come up with tests and responses that covered all the major areas of focus mentioned at the beginning of the assignment?
- F. Have I met the minimum requirement of three tests, including hypnosis?
- G. Did I give myself enough time to complete this assignment?
- H. Will others truly know my patient by reading the tests and responses?

The rubric on which you will be graded is below. Good luck!

	5	3	1
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Conventions	Few or no grammatical or mechanical errors	Several grammatical or mechanical errors	Several grammatical or mechanical errors; obviously not proofread
Presentation	Superior design and above average work, shows extreme effort	Average to well design, shows good effort	Poorly designed or lacks finished quality, shows little or no effort
	10	6	2
Character Information	Includes information from all aspects of "patient's" life, (list)	Includes information from many aspects of "patient's" life	Includes information from few aspects of "patient's" life
Hypnosis Questions	Higher level questions asked and answered with support and explanation	Higher level questions asked and answered with some support and explanation	Higher level questions asked and answered with little or no support and explanation
Test #2 _____	Completed correctly giving abundant information on "patient"	Completed correctly giving some information on "patient"	Completed correctly giving little or no information on "patient"
Test #3 _____	Completed correctly giving abundant information on "patient"	Completed correctly giving some information on "patient"	Completed correctly giving little or no information on "patient"
EXTRA CREDIT 3 points	Student goes above Appropriate	and beyond ancillary materials	expectations included.