

**Assignment:** Choose a character appearing in your own memoir and write about him or her in such a way that it gives the reader a sense of layers, shadings and opposites in your character's make-up. You can write anywhere from a paragraph to 400 words.

In class we began with free association and then moved on to free association of opposites. You might find that helpful when thinking about your character, starting with about a dozen free association thoughts. For example, if you chose an uncle you might free associate World War I, Topeka, pitchfork, yellowed boots, farmer, quick temper, smell of damp earth, seventh child of ten...and so on. Then move on to opposites. Then write your character study in any format you want: poem, short story, action scene, all dialogue, whatever.

Dianne