**Subject area/course**: ELA/Creative Writing

**Grade level/band**: 10-12

**Task source**: New Hampshire Task Bank; Author: Aaron Cass

**Found Fiction**

**STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **Task context**:

*Essential questions*: What motivates people in the real world, and how do we translate that into creating fictional characters? How do we create a coherent piece of fiction that conforms to concrete evidence? How does the perspective from which we tell a story shape the way the reader perceives the elements of the story?

1. **Final product**:

This assignment starts with you finding an object (a lost article of clothing, a key, an earring, someone’s shopping list), which you will then use to develop a short piece of fiction.

Your goal is to use the author’s tools of characterization, plot structure, sensory imagery and narration to create a compelling piece of fiction centered on your found object. The piece may explain where the object came from, serve as the basis for a character or provide the backstory to their plot, but whatever you create, your story will come out of the object you find.

*Guidelines:*

* Typed in Google Docs and shared with teacher.
* Pass in all previous drafts and conference sheets as evidence of collaboration and revision
* Self-assess your final draft using the assignment rubric and pass it in on the due date.

**Additional Information**

1. **Knowledge and skills you will need to demonstrate on this task:**

*Students will know:*

* How to use direct and indirect characterization
* How to use dialogue effectively in a narrative
* How to develop a primary conflict through the five stages of plot
* How to evoke the reader’s emotions and imagination though sensory imagery

*Students will be able to:*

* Outline the structure of their plot to create a coherent piece of fiction
* Produce a rough draft and revision of their piece
* Edit their own work and the work of peers for clarity, style and coherence
* Collaborate with peers and teachers to give a receive feedback to improve their writing
1. **Materials needed:**
* Plot organizer
* Characterization analysis organizer
1. **Time requirements:**

This task is designed to take about two weeks. Your teacher will provide you with more information about the timing of each part of this task.

1. **Scoring:**

Your work will be scored using the Short Story rubric. You should make sure you are familiar with the language that describes the expectations for proficient performance.