

Writing to Remember (Red)

Autobiographical writing

Purpose: The purpose of this seminar is to share your life experiences with fellow participants and, at the same time, record them for yourself and your family.

Course #	19SWR
Format:	Seminar
Moderator:	Ellen Peck
Co-moderator:	Catharine Porter
Date and Time:	Thursday morning, 10:00-Noon 10 weeks, starting February 28
Location:	Grace Episcopal Church, Amherst

Description: Long one of the most popular 5CLIR seminars (previously called "Autobiographical Writing"), Writing to Remember offers its members the opportunity to get to know themselves and each other a little better.

Many participants have taken advantage of this seminar to write their family story for their children and grandchildren. The writing takes all forms, from rough drafts to polished pieces, and all are welcome. The group offers the writer feedback and, if desired, will offer suggestions for revisions and/or possible additions as well as clarification. This seminar is not a course in how to write; it aims, rather, to stimulate and encourage you to continue writing your own story. Your writing can center on the events of family life, career experiences, or anything else you would like to tell about yourself.

Role of participants: Each participant has the opportunity to read aloud two pieces of original writing during the semester. Sometimes these texts are distributed in advance (often via email), allowing more time for discussion. The atmosphere is relaxed, but the serious efforts of all concerned help make this a rewarding experience for everyone.

Resources: n/a

About the Moderators: Ellen has been an English professor at Mount Holyoke College, but instead of doing academic analyses of others' writing, she much prefers writing about her own family and personal experience. She has moderated other 5CLIR seminars as well. Catharine is a retired UMass faculty member from the Department of Consumer Studies, and Ombudsperson. Ellen and Catharine have co-moderated this seminar previously.

Maximum number of participants: 12

Auditors accepted: no

Enrollment is limited to only ONE Writing to Remember seminar per semester.