

Kernel and Motive

Preliminary exercise (due in Ses #5):

Describe the kernel and motive for the narrative essay due next week. The “kernel” is the image, event, or individual that forms the starting point or seed of your narrative essay. The “motive” is the question or insight that you want to get at in your essay—the idea that drives the essay forward. Remember—this idea need not take the form of an argument. A narrative often generates more questions than answers. You should write at least two sentences about each element, but you should feel free to write much more. If you have any questions about how you might build upon these basic elements, feel free to include those questions in your exercise. I will respond to everything that you write.