In *Tuesdays with Morrie*, Mitch Albom introduces us to one of his own heroes, Morrie Schwartz. Morrie’s courage in the face of his own slow, painful, and often times frustrating death process can be an inspiration to each of us. Morrie was a teacher even in his death, and he left us with many useful aphorisms, philosophies of life, to guide us through the difficult times in our own lives.

For this persuasive essay, you will choose one of Morrie’s aphorisms and teach the reader the importance of it. Illustrate it with examples from your own life. How have you found truth in the aphorism in your own life? There are a lot of aphorisms to choose from, and if you find that a combination of two or more works better for you, so be it.

Your essay should be a minimum of one and a half pages in length. Remember to supply specific details. You are familiar with the events in your story, but your reader is not. Work on SHOWING the reader how the aphorism played itself out in your life rather than simply telling. The essay should contain elements of persuasive writing (refer to the handouts that I have given you in class.)

When you turn in your final draft you will need to submit the essay along with your essay evaluation letter stapled to the back of it (this should be typed on a separate piece of paper) and a writing variables sheet. This will answer the following questions: Who is your intended audience? What is your purpose for writing? What form are you choosing (Essay)? What is the context in which you are writing? What is your central idea?

Essay Evaluation Letter: What did you like about this topic? What did you find difficult about this assignment, and what did you do to overcome those difficulties? What do you think are the strengths of your essay? What would you still like to work on if you had more time? Keep in mind that the letter is not an opportunity for you to "sell" your essay to me. I will not read the letter until after I have given your essay a grade. I simply want to hear your assessment of your persuasive writing.

**Grading rubric:**

Essay (C.O.S.M.) – **20 marks**

Evaluation Letter – **10 marks**

Writing Variables Sheet – **5 marks**

**TOTAL MARKS** /35