

# Who's Who? Mystery Classmate

## Making Social Connections Through Writing

Subject \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Assignment Summary**

Middle schoolers are social creatures! We enjoy spending time with our friends but can sometimes feel awkward around those we don't know as well. We often judge our peers based on their outside appearance without really getting to know the person inside. Learning about others helps us to make connections, form friendships, and understand each other better. This assignment is your opportunity to introduce yourself to your classmates and me and share what you'd like us to know about you. You will develop a description of yourself that will help us to get to know you better. Later, we will have fun sharing our writing anonymously and guessing "Who's Who?"

<b>Writer's Purpose</b>	You are writing to describe yourself to others who do not already know you. Feel free to be entertaining if that's your style, as long as your writing is a true reflection of who you are and does not embarrass any other schoolmates. Remember, you are describing the true you, not your outside appearance.
<b>Writer's Role</b>	You are writing as yourself, the person who knows the most about YOU!
<b>Audience</b>	You are writing for your classmates who may not yet know a lot about you. Based on the information you provide, they will be trying to guess who you are, while also looking for things you may have in common.
<b>Form</b>	You will create a profile of yourself that includes information and interesting details about who you are and what makes you unique. Your writing should end with the question, "Who am I?"
<b>Focus Correction Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>6-8 clues</u> (describe your personality, interests, special talents, or any other non-physical characteristics that you'd like us to understand about you)</li> <li>• <u>Short anecdote</u> (tell a short story that relates to one of your clues)</li> <li>• <u>Written in first person</u> (I, me)</li> </ul>
<b>Procedure</b>	<p>To help you develop your profile, we will do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Type One Writing:</b> Write five lines or more about a few of your special interests and talents. Circle 3-5 key words that</li> </ul>

best capture who you are. After you have finished, draw a line below what you have written. Below the line, add 5 or more words that you would use to describe your personality.

- Together, we will write a “Who am I?” profile for me. I will show you how to write in the first person and how to tell a short anecdote that elaborates on one of my clues.
- Draft your profile. Remember to end with, “Who am I?”
- Read your writing out loud in a one-foot voice, and make any changes you feel will improve it.
- Show me that you have followed each of the FCAs. Number your clues and make sure you have at least six. Put parentheses around your anecdote. Circle at least 3 examples of the pronouns I and me.
- I will collect your writing before we share.
- We will listen to each other’s profiles, but you will not share your own. I will read each one aloud, display it using my screen or whiteboard, or ask for volunteer readers to share classmates’ profiles.
- As you listen, jot down one thing you have in common with each person and your guess for whose profile it is. After each profile (or after all classmates have shared), we will reveal “Who’s Who?” and discuss some of the things we have in common in our class.
- Type Two: What is one thing you learned about a classmate, one thing you have in common with another classmate, and one person you’d like to get to know better this year? Be sure to name each classmate in your writing.