

Multigenre Autobiography: Understanding the Two Genres

Qualities of effective informational nonfiction

- Focus is on facts, events, and details
- Author is direct with presentation of main ideas
- Text is developed with examples and explanation
- Written in third-person (no *I* pronouns)
- Author's opinions are kept to a minimum
- Writing style is clear and standardized

Qualities of effective autobiographical nonfiction

- Focus is on events and reactions
- Author can be indirect in presentation of main ideas
- Text is developed with description, dialogue, and reaction
- Written in first-person (*I* pronouns)
- Author's opinions and reactions are central to the piece
- Writing style is clear, but can also reflect more of the author's persona