

## Epitaph Assignment

ep-i-taph

Pronunciation: 'e-p&-taph

Function: noun

Etymology: Middle English *epitaphe*, from Middle French & Medieval Latin; Middle French, from Medieval Latin *epitaphium*, from Latin, funeral oration; from Greek

*epitaphion*; from *epi-* + *taphos* tomb, funeral

Date: 14th century

1 : an inscription on or at a tomb or a grave in memory of the one buried there

2 : a brief statement commemorating or epitomizing a deceased person or something past

Part One: Write your epitaph. It can be serious, humorous or informative. It can be short or long (try to make it a single phrase or sentence). An epitaph is a statement that should sum up or "epitomize" your life. It may describe your life in broad terms or highlight a specific aspect of your life.

Part Two: In a 3-4 page essay, discuss and justify your epitaph. Include specific details about your life, beliefs, achievements, failures and relationships. Keep your "justification" grounded in the details of your actual life—avoid excessive speculation about your life after death or religious beliefs.

Assumptions: It is not necessary to assume you will die tomorrow in this essay. You may make project your life long into the future and make detailed speculation about what you achieved. You may speak of this projected future as if it already occurred.