

Fall 2020

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Commonplace book

Intro/rationale

Keep a commonplace book: a notebook where you copy beloved poems or hunks of prose out. Nothing will teach you a great writer's choices better.

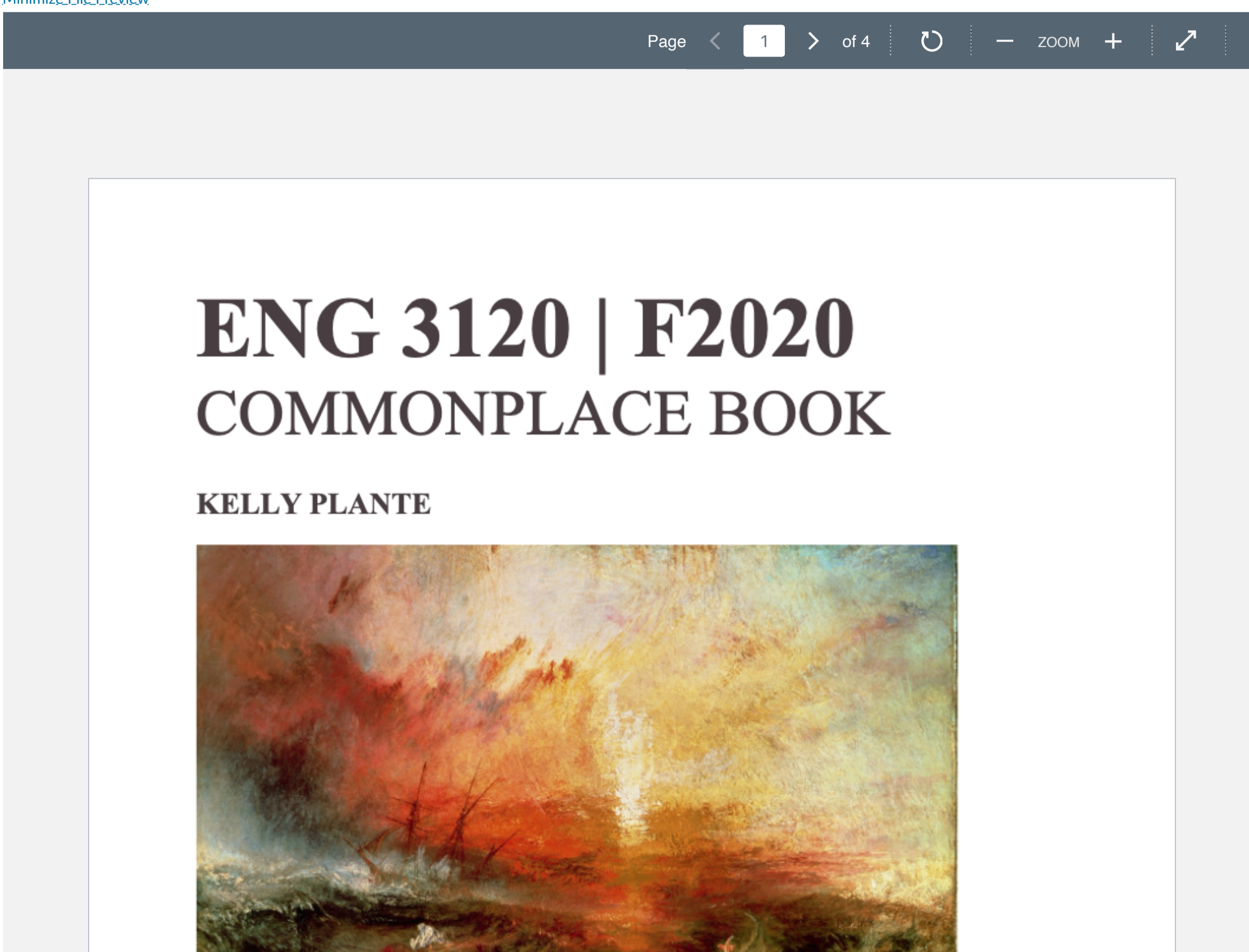
Mary Karr, *The Art of Memoir*

Assignment prompt

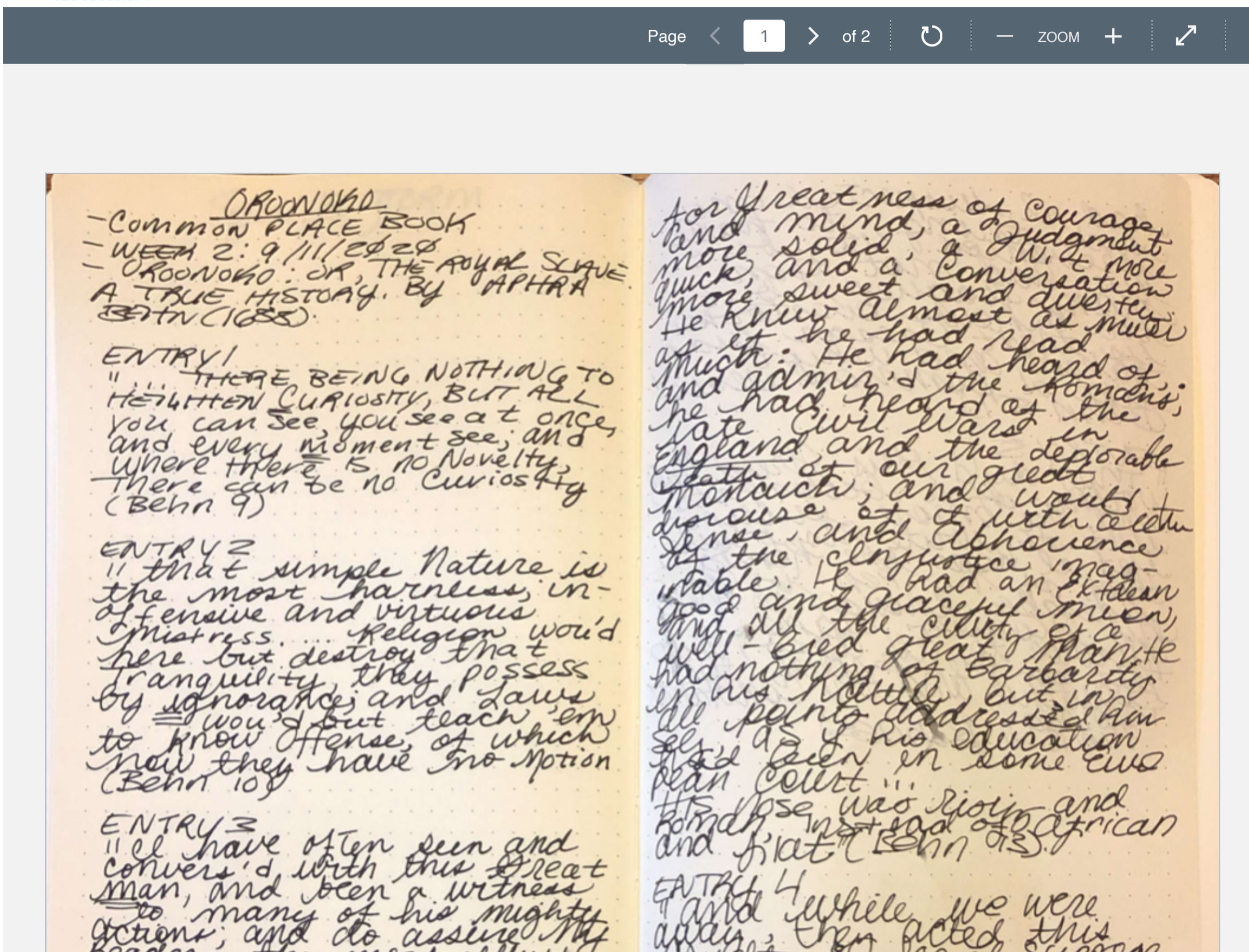
Commonplace books are a way to compile knowledge by writing information into books. They have been kept from antiquity, and were especially popular during the 1600s and into the 1700s and 1800s. Not only will we practice the art of writing in a commonplace book as did our literary predecessors; you will be able to use your commonplace book as a record to return to when deciding upon passages to close read and ultimately include in your literary analysis paper at the culmination of this course.

Here are examples of how your commonplace book can be done. Please feel free to format it however you prefer but also you may use these as a template if you want to.

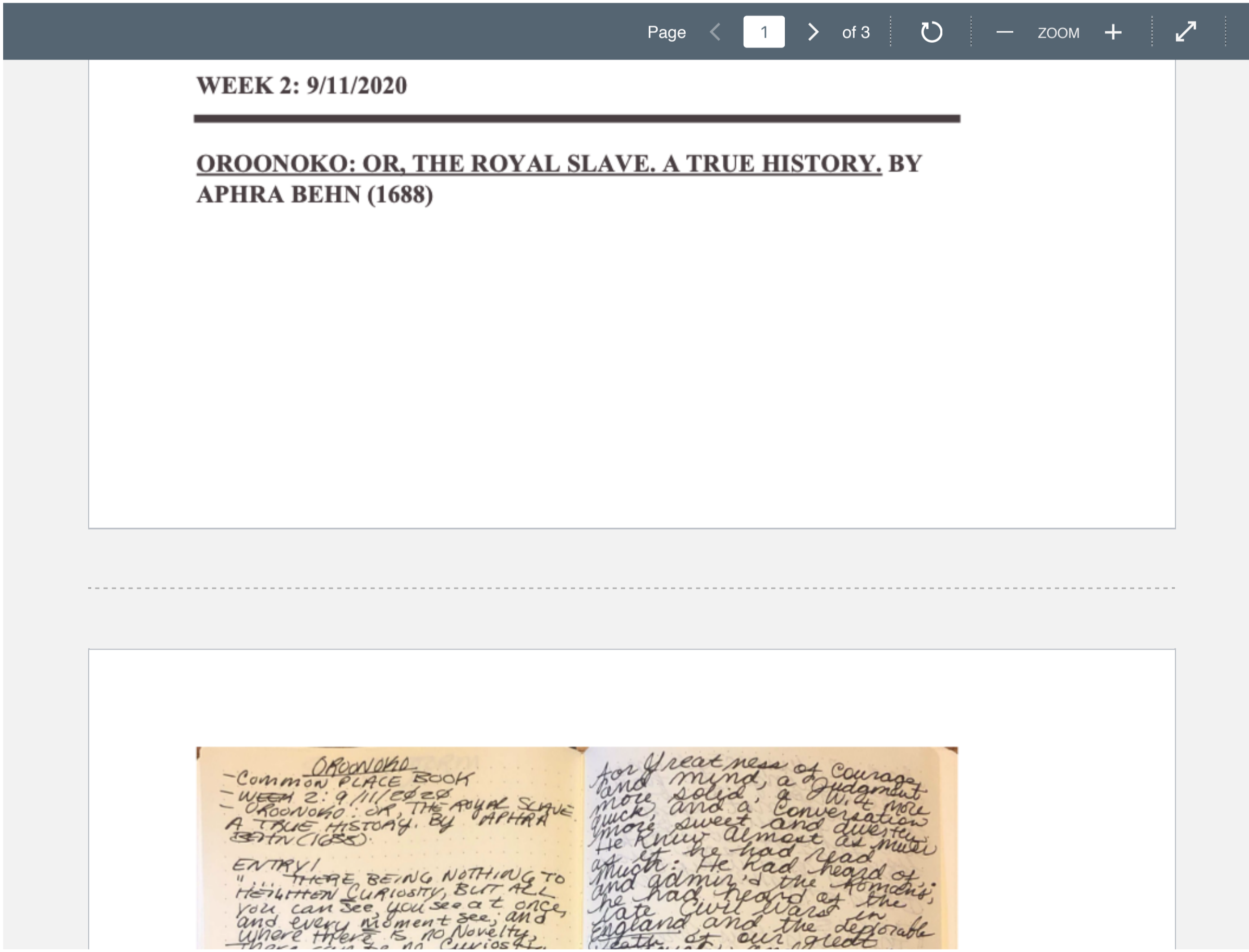
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- [CPB_Handwritten.pdf](#) ↓
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- [CPB_Hybrid.docx](#) ↓
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Learning outcomes

- Demonstrate knowledge of relevant historical and cultural contexts, including literary movements, major social trends, significant political events, and canonicity.
- Identify and analyze relevant genres and forms.
- Understand and practice the skill of close textual reading.
- Acquire and employ a [basic vocabulary of literary and critical terms](#) ↓
- Practice comparative analysis of two or more works.
- Write a clear, persuasive, and argumentative essay interpreting one or more works of literature, using appropriate quotation and citation.

Success criteria

- 5 of your favorite or most striking quotes recorded per week
- handwritten and scanned or typewritten and submitted in your Teams channel by the due date of Friday, 11:59 weekly

Grading

This assignment will be graded as credit/no credit and is worth 5% of your final grade.

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