

MEMOIR



Winston Churchill: Churchill is most famous for leading Great Britain during WWII. After the war though he wrote many memoirs, essays and books about his experiences.

“I have followed, as in previous volumes, as far as I am able, the method of Defoe’s *Memoirs of a Cavalier*, in which the author hangs the chronicle and discussion of great military and political events upon the thread of the personal experiences of an individual. I am perhaps the only man who has passed through both the two supreme cataclysms of recorded history [WWI and WWII] in high cabinet office.”

-Memoirs of the Second World War (1959)



Name some of the words and elements of this quote that tell you it is a memoir.

This quote talks about a man’s experience in a position of power during World War I and World War II.

Henry David Thoreau: Thoreau's writings cover many genres at the same time. They are nonfiction, often philosophy but are always written as a memoir. A memory of a certain time and place he experienced.

“Concord River is remarkable for the gentleness of its current, which is scarcely perceptible, and some have referred to its influence the proverbial moderation of the inhabitants of Concord, as exhibited in the Revolution, and on later occasions. It has been proposed, that the town should adopt for its coat of arms a field verdant, with the Concord circling nine times round. I have read that a descent of an eighth of an inch in a mile is sufficient to produce a flow. Our river has, probably, very near the smallest allowance. ...Compared with the other tributaries of the Merrimack, it appears to have been properly named Musketaquid, or Meadow River, by the Indians.”

- The Hound (1922)



How are Thoreau's descriptions different from an autobiography?

Thoreau’s descriptions are different from an autobiography because the poem is not detailing accurate, specific events. This poem talks about his experience at Concord River and is more descriptive about the river and not true reporting about his life.
