

## Six Word Memoirs by Students

Here is an activity I gave my students today. The results made me laugh and tear up. Number 6, 13 and 22 are some favs. Enjoy!

### Option #1: Write a six word memoir. What is that, you ask?

Legend has it that novelist Ernest Hemingway was once challenged, in a bar, to write a story using just six words. He won the bet by writing this story:

***“For sale: baby shoes, never worn.”***

So few words, yet implying a much deeper story. So, maybe it was Hemingway, in light of his economy of words. But, in 2006, in homage to this idea, SMITH Magazine, an online publication, gave this six-word novel an autobiographical twist and started a contest in which people wrote and submitted six-word stories of their own, as memoirs. You can visit [six word memoirs](#) to read more about it, and to write your own.

### **From students on March 30, 2020**

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| 1. “Staycation” has a drastically new meaning. | 20. Covid, that's all there is now                 |
| 2. Here I sit, to take a stand.                | 21. School's closed, toilet paper out, coronavirus |
| 3. Concealer can only cover external blemishes | 22. “Never considered sibling swap until now.      |
| 4. Very bored. Is quarantine over yet?         | 23. Defeated, 1984 was moved to nonfiction”        |
| 5. At least it didn't kill us”                 | 24. Moving on is giving up.                        |
| 6. My \$400 dress will remain unworn.          | 25. You speak but I can't listen.                  |
| 7. Called friend, but really an enemy          | 26. The rains more enjoyable than the sun          |
| 8. It's planted, prospers, and it's beautiful. | 27. You can't converse, just talk.                 |
| 9. Washed my hands. Touched face. Whoops!      | 28. Enjoy small things while they last             |
| 10. Relax. More time to look inward.           | 29. Coronavirus. Lots of time to think             |
| 11. Focus on positive. Live without regret.    | 30. Life: Climb mountains. Fall down. Repeat.      |
| 12. Far away but still so close.               | 31. Life's on pause, so press play                 |
| 13. Alexa, find me new quarantine friends      | 32. When no one speaks, speak louder               |
| 14. "Always running, but never fast enough."   | 33. 7 billion people, 7 billion worlds             |
| 15. Everything is not as it seems.             | 34. This is awesome! Wait, maybe not.              |
| 16. Be careful what you wish for               | 35. Chaos is funny; until it's reality             |
| 17. You're the only one stopping you.          | 36. Family of four: divided in quarters            |
| 18. Tacos: free today, at Taco Bell            | 37. No need for a roasted turkey.                  |
| 19. With Hope, We wait for more news           | 38. All doors are wide open here.                  |
|  | 39. Life is like bread, yummy croissants.          |
|  | 40. Wait up, I forgot my phone.                    |