

Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

Narrative Writing Assignment

Ms. Fougrousse's Class

Directions: Please be sure to read this assignment sheet before you begin writing. This assignment sheet outlines topic ideas, paper expectations, and general information that will aid you as you start and execute the writing of this assignment.

Narrative Writing is the art of storytelling. There are many forms of storytelling, but all share one thing in common. They are filled with a purpose and they are a form of personal expression. A **personal narrative** is an autobiographical account. That means that a narrative gives insight into the life of the author or the experiences of an author. However, not all narratives have to be personal. Narratives simply have to follow the elements of narration (characters, setting, plot, etc.). There are two main forms of autobiographical writing: **personal narratives** and **memoirs**. What's the difference? Let's focus on the major difference:

→ → → **Personal Narrative**= **one event** or situation ← ← ←
Memoir= **multiple events** or situations with one overarching theme

Telling your own stories:

Can you:

- Remember a time when you experienced the death of someone close to you?
- Remember a pet you once had which you don't have anymore?
- Remember a time when you tried to cook something and it didn't turn out?
- Remember a time when you got in trouble for something you had already been told not to do?
- Remember a time when you broke something that belonged to someone else?
- Remember a trip that you would not want to have to take again?
- Remember a party or a date you didn't want to go on to begin with?
- Remember a time when you got sick at a very inconvenient time?
- Remember a birthday or a holiday you would like (or not like) to live over again?
- Remember a time when you got lost or separated from your family or friends?
- Remember a time when you got locked out of where you needed to be?
- Remember a time when your first impression of someone turned out to be completely wrong?
- Remember a time when you learned something from a child?
- Remember a problem with a haircut?...make-up?...an article of clothing?
- Remember a time when you almost won, but not quite?
- Remember a time when you were tricked or lied to?
- Remember your most embarrassing moment?

More ideas...don't forget while you are thinking of conflicts to also remember the place and the people who were there.

Take us with you:

- When you had to move from one home to another
- To a movie when you were a child
- On a walk around the neighborhood or rural area where you lived as a child
- On a visit to your favorite childhood store
- On a shopping trip with a parent, another family member, or a friend
- On a visit to the doctor's office
- To summer camp
- Back home for a childhood holiday meal
- To your childhood hiding place or special thinking place

Can you:

- Introduce us to the oldest person you can remember knowing?
- Tell us about a childhood friend whom you have continued to know all of your life?
- Introduce us to a teacher to whom you owe a lot?
- Remember the first person you ever had a crush on?
- Tell us about a person who once had something you wanted?
- Tell us about one of your grandfathers or grandmothers?

Assignment:

Choose one of the topics listed above and write about this particular incident in *your* life. You must also reflect on the experience as well. If there is something else not listed that you would like to write about, you must ask me first (and get it approved).

Paper requirements:

- ✓ The paper must be at least one-and-a-half pages typed, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font, with 1" margins. 5 pages maximum.
- ✓ Your paper should be in MLA format with your name, my name, the class, and date in the upper left-hand corner. In addition, you need a creative title that grabs the audiences attention.
- ✓ **You must include: dialogue, an engaging opening, use of vivid verbs, evidence of sentences that have been rearranged, sensory details/imagery, and a break in your writing (a time lapse, a flashback, or a reflection).**

The Process: As simple as A-B-C.

Position **A**: Pre-Write. It is your choice on how to get your thoughts flowing.

Position **B**: Rough Draft. The more effort you put into the rough, the easier the final. Draft wise.

Position **C**: Final Draft It. Finish the composition. Finish well.