

Personal Narrative Essay

Write an essay that is four to six paragraphs in length and that tells a true story about a very brief event in your life. You must be the central character. And the event has to be significant in some way. It could be something that your family tells on holidays and laughs about, or it could be an event that changed the way you act or think. Use the notes from our brainstorming in class to think of ideas.

Be sure to outline paper first. Outlines will be collected and will count for points. Organize the essay as a story. Have a beginning (an exposition), a middle, and an end (resolution).

Grading: paper will be graded based on my rubric, which makes content out of 6 points and grammar and usage out of 4 points. Paper must be typed and have proper formatting, which includes double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font, proper heading, 1 inch margins, and no extra line spacing.

Paragraph 1 (Exposition):

- Setting (when and where does the story take place?)
- Main characters (who were the main characters?)
- Thoughts about event or situation before event occurred.
- Any information that a reader would need to understand the context in which your story exists.

Paragraph 2 – 5 (story, rising action, climax, and falling action):

- Each paragraph should have a focus.
- Provide plenty of descriptions.
- Try to use creative language – similes, metaphors, personifications, onomatopoeia, and so on.
- Include dialogue
- Make sure that the story transitions and is chronological.

Conclusion Paragraph (Resolution, importance of event):

- The last paragraph should end the story.
- You should use this paragraph to discuss some significance of the event. Why is it important? What makes the story useful? Why does this story stay in your memory? Or why will this event stay in your memory for years?

Requirements:

- Must have dialogue
- Must use two cases of figurative language (simile, metaphor, or personification)
- You must be central character
- Must have a title that is creative and descriptive of your paper
- Must have description
- Must have correct language usage and punctuation