

Personal Narrative

Writing II – To Be Turned in For a Test / Project Grade

For the last two weeks, we have been reading personal narratives from a variety of authors. For the first major writing project of this class, you will write a personal narrative of your own. A personal narrative is a true story about yourself and may be about...

- A time you encountered (and overcame) a conflict
- A time you persevered through a difficult time in your life, or
- Your honest thoughts about a topic / situation that is relevant to you.

In order to effectively paint a picture in the reader's mind, you should include details in your personal narrative like

- Sensory details (sights, sounds, smells, and so on)
- Internal thoughts of the narrator (in other words: yourself)
- A concrete series of events (with a beginning, middle, and end)
- Dialogue and other characters (if appropriate)

The various goals of your personal narrative might be

- To help the reader learn something about the author (ie: you)
- To tell an entertaining / interesting / meaningful story that only the author (ie: you) can tell.
- To offer insight and perspective that only the author (ie: you) can have

If you are having trouble coming up with ideas for your personal narrative, click [this link](#) to read an online article that may give you various ideas for how to get started. Your personal narrative must be written in 12 point Times New Roman font, with 1" margins, an MLA-style header, a title, and must be at least 3 full pages, double spaced.

The personal narrative is due Wednesday, March 27th at Midnight.

Personal Narrative Rubric

Writing II – Dr. Canino

| | "A Range" (4pts) | "B Range" (3pts) | "C Range" (2pts) | "D to F Range" (1 - opts) | Points |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|---|--------|
| Main Idea | Your personal narrative has a clearly communicated main idea that's specific and unique to you. Your narrative stays on topic, and does not confuse the reader. | Your personal narrative has a clearly communicated main idea, but it lacks the specificity and detail of an "A" essay. | Your personal narrative has a clear idea, but the idea may either be somewhat general, or underdeveloped. | Your personal narrative has no clear main idea, or your narrative goes off topic so much that the main idea cannot be found. | |
| Supporting Details | Your narrative includes supporting details, such as background info, and sensory details as well. They are placed appropriately and paint a picture in the reader's mind. | Your personal narrative includes supporting details, but they are either inconsistently applied, or lack the specificity of an "A" essay. | Your personal narrative includes some supporting details, but they are underdeveloped or lacking in much substance. | Your narrative includes little (or no) supporting details, background info, sensory descriptions, or they are placed at random and inconsistently. | |
| Organization | Your personal narrative presents a clear sequence of events, logical train of thought, or group of events all themed around a similar topic. | Your personal narrative presents a clear set of events, train of thought, or group of events around a shared topic. However, your narrative may occasionally branch off topic, or not have a common theme. | Your personal narrative sometimes presents an unclear sequence of events or train of thought. If the events have a common theme, it is somewhat unclear. | Your personal narrative strays off topic so much that a clear sequence of events, logical train of thought, or group of events cannot be found. | |
| Grammar & Writing Conventions | Your personal narrative follows conventional grammar rules. If grammar mistakes are present, they are minor and easily forgotten. | Occasional grammar mistakes can be found in your essay. While they are noticeable and distracting, they do not impede how readable your essay is. | Semi-frequent grammar mistakes can be found throughout your essay. They at times distract the reader and interfere with how readable your essay is. | Your personal narrative does not follow conventional grammar rules. Grammar mistakes are so frequent that they interfere with how readable your essay is. | |
| Formatting & Overall Polish | Your personal narrative is formatted correctly. It has 12-point Times New Roman font, is double spaced, has 1" margins, and has a title with an MLA style header. | Your personal narrative has occasional formatting errors, but they overall do not distract the reader from your work. There is clear effort present in the formatting. | Multiple formatting errors are present in your personal narrative. They distract the reader consistently, but there is still effort present in the formatting. | Your personal narrative is completely out of format, and it appears as if no effort was made to format it correctly. | |

Total:

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