

## Narrative Writing 2023

**You will be writing a short, memorable narrative to flex your storytelling skills.**

### HOW?

- 1. Brainstorm topics. We will provide some prompts for those who may need a little nudge.**
- 2. Plan. Remember every story has a beginning, middle, and end. Think about the point you want to make. Will this story make it? [Here is a planning sheet](#) to help organize your idea.**
- 3. Draft. Incorporate some of the techniques we've reviewed.**
- 4. Revise. Read through the advice on this sheet and the rubric to make sure you've hit all the criteria.**

### ADVICE:

- You have to keep the scope narrow. This may mean focusing on a part of a day, vacation, memory rather than telling the whole thing. Even those smaller moments have a beginning, middle, and end.
- Focus in on the action, but it's ok to keep topic simple/mundane
- Think about creating moments (SHOW, DON'T TELL) for a reader rather than summarizing through sensory detail, figurative language, and expanded moments.
- Use dialogue and/or monologue to bring life to your narrative. Refer to the dialogue/monologue reference sheet in Classroom for paragraphing and punctuation.
- Consider playing with sequencing and pacing.

Need some inspo?

[Sample 1](#)

[Sample 2](#)

[Sample 3](#)

Need help with a topic? Here's a list you can consider:

- A time I took a risk/chance:
- A time I learned something about myself:
- A memory or key memories from childhood I think about often:
- Something that happened to me that still makes me laugh:
- Something I regret yet accept since it is part of my life:
- Something I am really proud of that was a challenge or still may be for me:
- Something that changed the way I think or look at the world:
- A time I felt truly satisfied:
- A time I failed at something that was vital to my development:
- A "first" in your life and what you learned or why it's memorable:
- A time when something bad turned out to be good, surprisingly:
- A time you said something you wish you had not and its impact :
- The beginning of your changed outlook about taking steps toward your own future:
- When you learned to see yourself in a more positive light and enjoy life more than ever:
- Realizing the greatest gifts cannot be purchased and what those gifts are for you personally:

RUBRIC ON NEXT PAGE

<p>To earn an A, your no-longer-than 2 page-narrative must meet these criteria:</p>	<p>The text creatively engages the reader by finding a deliberate, interesting way to begin the story.</p> <p>The text demonstrates purposeful, sophisticated use of at least 3 of the following narrative techniques:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Engaging dialogue</li> <li>● Internal monologue</li> <li>● Compression/expansion</li> <li>● Sensory details that “show”</li> <li>● Figurative language</li> </ul> <p>Writer consistently selects words that convey the intended message accurately, precisely, and interestingly.</p> <p>The text creates a seamless progression of experiences, and may experiment with sequencing</p> <p>The text moves to a conclusion that artfully follows from the narrative.</p> <p>The point of the narrative is clearly made, either explicitly or implicitly.</p> <p>Writer has a strong grasp of standard writing conventions. There are no glaring errors.</p>
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**\*\* NOTE \*\* Narratives that do not meet the above criteria will not receive an A range grade.**

**WHAT NOT TO DO:**

- The text is vague and looks more like a journal entry than a story (often due to lack of planning).
- The text merely retells events and/or experiences.
- The progression of events is confusing or illogical.
- Write one gigantic paragraph.
- Frequency of errors forces the reader to pause throughout.
- The meaning comes through, but the reader stumbles at time or the word choice is so dull or elementary that it makes it difficult to read or take seriously as a final project
- Rambling or ranting, allowing “everything” to go unedited