

The Personal Narrative: Short Story Assignment

This semester we have studied how stories are built and the elements that make for good conflict. We have also studied stories told in different ways, from short stories to novels to movies and graphic novels. For your Personal Narrative Writing Assignment, you will be writing a piece of creative non-fiction in the form of a short story.

Directions for Today: Choose ONE of the following prompts to write about. Then, complete the writing outline on the back of this page.

1. Tell about a time in your life when friendship proved to be of great importance to you.
2. Martin Luther King, Jr., said that he dreamed of the day when his children “would be judged not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.” Write about a time in your life when the content of your character was tested.
3. People often say, “Don’t judge a book by its cover.” Describe a time when you misjudged someone based on his or her appearance or when someone misjudged you.
4. The way a person handles disappointment reveals a great deal about what is important to him or her. Tell about a time in your life when you confronted disappointment and how you handled it.
5. It isn’t always easy to do what is right, and sometimes it can even be dangerous. Describe a time when you put yourself at risk (physically, socially, emotionally, or professionally) to do what you thought was right.
6. Sometimes we surprise ourselves with what we are able to do. Describe a time when you accomplished something you didn’t think you could do.

Writing Requirements:

- 3-4 pages
- Typed, Times New Roman 12 pt. font
- Double spaced, one inch margins

Your Personal Narrative is due on: _____

Personal Narrative Outline

Author Name: _____

Prompt #: _____

Character(s) other than yourself:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Setting: _____

Conflict Type (Man vs Self, Man, Nature, or Society):

Use the rest of this page to build your plot outline