# The Narrative

Personal narratives are stories that tap into an individual’s life experiences. In the narrative, writers (you) recapture a memorable *moment*.

Your assignment is to write a personal narrative about an autobiographical incident—a true story about an incident from your life that is vivid to you. It should have taught you an important lesson or made you feel something deeply. This experience can be times when you:

🞋 Discovered something about yourself

🞋 Experienced something new

🞋 Had a strong emotional experience

**Topics to consider writing about:**

🞋 the BIG mistake

🞋 an extreme weather condition that you endured

🞋 a time when you were lost

🞋 the first day of…

🞋 the worst mix-up of your life

🞋 your best birthday (or Fourth of July, Halloween, etc.)

🞋 your worst accident or brush with death

🞋 meeting a celebrity

🞋 challenging an authority

🞋 a triumph in sports or some artistic endeavor

🞋 a risk that paid off (or didn’t)

🞋 a bad habit that got you into (or out of) trouble

🞋 a family story passed down through the generations

## Some things to consider

🞋 Make sure to have a focused main idea (remember, don’t write about an entire week of time. Keep your story *small*)

🞋 Make sure to have strong, interesting details to develop your story.

Show, don’t tell.

🞋 Write in the first person (I, me, etc.)

🞋 Consider using dialogue. Remember, new speaker = new paragraph

🞋 Use *emotion*. State how things made you feel.

🞋 Please know that if I read something about you that makes me think you are in danger, I am required by law to report it!

### Requirements

🞋 It should be at least two, double-spaced, typed pages.

🞋 12 point readable font

🞋 Rough drafts must accompany final draft.

This essay is A WRITING ASSESSMENT and will be scored on the 5 WRITING TRAITS.