

Personal Narrative

In this lesson you will write a one paragraph **personal narrative**. A personal narrative is a **true story** about something that happened to **you** or **something you did**. It does not have to be a story about something fantastic or larger than life. A good narrative can be about something very simple.

Why do people write personal narratives? Some people write them simply because they want to share an experience. Sometimes they write them to entertain the reader. Personal narratives can be happy, scary, sad, or any feeling in between.

Audiences for a personal narrative can range from a friend, a parent, or even a teacher. The writer needs to keep his audience in mind as he chooses his words.

Develop and write a personal narrative using the following writing process:

Outlining Process

- A. Choose a main topic
- B. Complete the rough outline
- C. Complete the final outline

Drafting Process

- A. Complete the rough draft
- B. Edit the rough draft
- C. Complete the final draft

Outlining Process

We will now begin writing a personal narrative with the outlining process. Outlining is the process where information about the writing is gathered in order to complete a rough outline and a final outline.

Choose a main topic

Write about one of the following:

- a game you like to play
- something nice you did for someone
- a time when you worked so hard you got really tired

Choose your main topic and write it in the main topic section of the rough outline.

The entire outlining process is explained in **Appendix A**. If you need help in completing the rough outline or the final outline, use Appendix A. Whether or not you use Appendix A, you still need to complete the rough outline and the final outline on the next two pages of this lesson.

Complete the rough outline

Rough Outline

Main topic:

Detail #1:

Detail #2:

Detail #3:

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Complete the final outline

Final Outline

Topic sentence:

Detail sentence #1:

Detail sentence #2:

Detail sentence #3:

Ending sentence:

Handwriting practice lines consisting of solid top and bottom lines with a dashed midline, repeated 20 times down the page.

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Edit the rough draft

It is now time to **edit** the rough draft you wrote on Day 3. Does your paragraph say what you want it to say? Do the words you chose make sense?

Look for and fix the following errors: 1) incorrectly used, misspelled, or misplaced words, 2) incorrect or missing spacing, 3) incorrect, missing, or misplaced punctuation, and 4) incorrect or missing capitalization.

Handwriting practice lines consisting of 20 sets of three horizontal lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid).