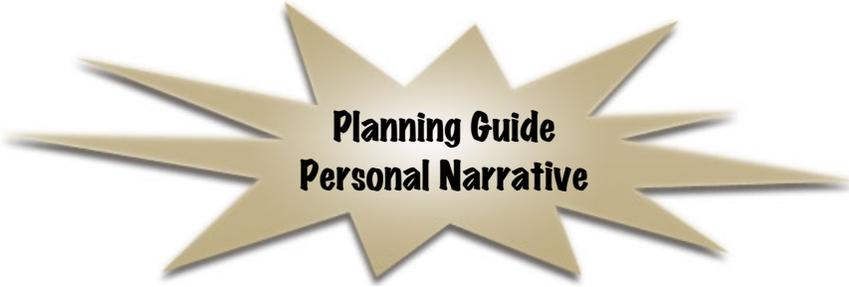


**Think about  
Christmas.**



**Write a story about  
Christmas.**



**Planning Guide  
Personal Narrative**

I. Introduction

- A. The occasion (idea, setting, series of happenings, or situation)
- B. Significant characters
- C. Set the stage for the story

II. Events\*

- A. Identify the event
- B. Supporting details (usually in chronological order)\*\*
- C. Reflection

III. Final outcome

- A. Restatement of the occasion
- B. Insight
- C. Parting thought

\*There are no set numbers of events or details. Some events may close with a reflection.

\*\*Some elaboration methods

**Vivid language**

**Dialogue**

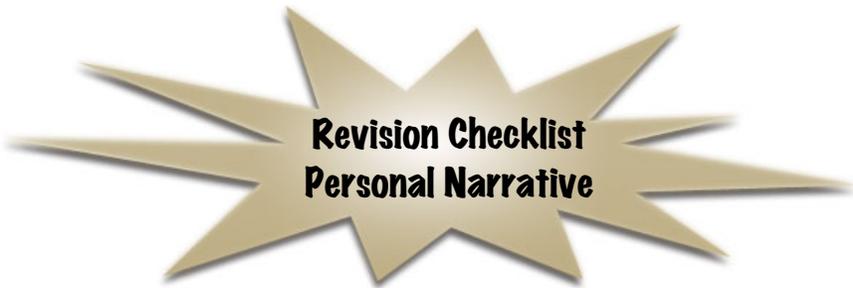
**Specific details**

Very Dull Story without these!



**Planning Organizer  
Personal Narrative**

Occasion	<b>Christmas morning with my family.</b>
Significant characters	<b>My mom, my dad, my puppy, and I</b>
Set the stage	<b>The house had Christmas decorations in every room. There were lots of presents under the tree. Mom told me I had to go to bed early.</b>
First event	<b>After I changed my clothes and brushed my teeth, I got into bed.</b>
Second event	<b>I couldn't sleep because I wanted it to be Christmas morning already.</b>
Third event	<b>In the morning, I ran to the Christmas tree to open my presents.</b>
Fourth event	<b>There was one more present. My dad told me to look outside in the back yard. It was a puppy!</b>
Final outcome	<b>Parting Thought: This was the best present I had ever received.</b>



**Revision Checklist  
Personal Narrative**

Occasion \_\_\_\_\_

Significant characters \_\_\_\_\_

Set the stage \_\_\_\_\_

First event\*

    Identify \_\_\_\_\_

    Support \_\_\_\_\_

    Reflection \_\_\_\_\_

Second event

    Identify \_\_\_\_\_

    Support \_\_\_\_\_

    Reflection \_\_\_\_\_

Final outcome

    Occasion \_\_\_\_\_

    Insight \_\_\_\_\_

    Parting thought \_\_\_\_\_

Vivid language\*\*  
\_\_\_\_\_

Dialogue  
\_\_\_\_\_

Specific details  
\_\_\_\_\_

The story should include:

    An introduction that focuses attention on the subject and prepares the reader for what is to follow

    Supporting details in chronological order

    Transitions to give paragraphs coherence

    A conclusion that restates the occasion in fresh words and states an insight or a lesson learned from the experience

\*No set number of events

\*\*Use tally marks each time vivid language, dialogue and specific details are used.