

Personal Narrative Prompt

Look at the picture below.



Mysteries are often filled with excitement.

Pretend you found something mysterious. Write an imaginative story about what you found and what happened.

Personal Narrative Planning Organizer

Sample for Guided Writing

Who" and "what" Occasion of the story	Occasion or central idea <small>Note: must meet demands of the prompt</small>	Found a small box hidden in the floor.
	Significant characters	Myself and grandfather
Introduction	Set the stage	Grandpa usually tells me stories when I visit. This time we both discovered a story from long ago in a small black box.
	First event	During the weekend, Grandpa asked me to help him clean out a storage shed.
Body	Second event	After hours of work I took a break and sat near the small corner of the shed. That's when I saw a small hole in one of the floor boards.
	Third event	After investigating the floor board, I discovered a small black box, but it was locked.
	Fourth event	Showed it to grandpa, and he suspected it belonged to one of his brothers.
	Fifth event	Toys and things inside.
	Final outcome	Grandpa was as excited as I was. He started telling stories about the things we discovered.
Closing		Parting Thought There is always a treasure of adventures and stories with my Grandpa.

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 is no set number of events or details. Some events may close with a reflection.

**Some elaboration methods

Vivid language

Dialogue

Specific details

Very Dull Story without this!

I. Introduction

Occasion or CI: Found a small box hidden in the floor

Significant characters (SC): Myself and grandfather

(hook)

Set the stage: Grandpa usually tells me stories when I visit. This time we both discovered a story from long ago in a small black box.

II. Body

1st Event – During the weekend, Grandpa asked me to help him clean out a storage shed.

2nd Event – After hours of work I took a break and sat near the small corner of the shed. That's when I saw a small hole in one of the floor boards.

3rd Event– After investigating the floor board, I discovered a small black box, but it was locked.

4th Event– Showed it to grandpa, and he suspected it belonged to one of his brothers.

III. Closing

Final outcome: Grandpa was as excited as I was. He started telling stories about the things we discovered.

Parting thought – There is always a treasure of adventures and stories with my Grandpa.

Collaborative Interactive Writing Activity

Teacher directions - cut apart each part of the writing plan.

- Provide each group a part of the essay.
- Draft each paragraph using the plan provided.



Add a meaningful hook or lead to grab your readers attention. Use this “set the stage” idea or develop one with a similar idea.

I. Introduction

CI – Found a small box hidden in the floor

Set the stage Grandpa usually tells me stories when I visit. This time we both discovered a story from long ago in a small black box.

Write a topic sentence with the MI or event. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

II. Body

1st Event– During the weekend, Grandpa asked me to help him clean out a storage shed.

Write a topic sentence with the MI or event. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

2nd Event– After hours of work I took a break and sat near the small corner of the shed. That’s when I saw a small hole in one of the floor boards.

Write a topic sentence with the MI or event. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

3rd Event– After investigating the floor board, I discovered a small black box, but it was locked.

Write a topic sentence with the MI or event. Then add sentences with the supporting details.

4th Event— Showed it to grandpa, and he suspected it belonged to one of his brothers.

- You may add other supporting details. Use detail moves to make your writing interesting and engaging.

Use the restated occasion or develop one with fresh new words. Use the parting thought or develop a new one to leave your audience with a thoughtful closing.

III. Closing

Final outcome: Grandpa was as excited as I was. He started telling stories about the things we discovered

Parting thought - There is always a treasure of adventures and stories with my Grandpa.

Planning Organizer
Personal Narrative

Occasion	
Significant characters	
Set the stage	
First event	
Second event	
Third event	
Fourth event	
Final outcome	

Revision Checklist

Personal Narrative

Organization and Progression

Development of ideas**

Occasion _____	Details that Describe	Action Details	Persuasive Details	Details that Inform	Dialogue Details
Significant characters _____	State the obvious	Act and think	If...then	State the opposite side	“Dialogue” with tags
Set the stage _____	Just like that Simile and metaphors	But, why???	Take the opposite side	What’s next?	Instead of <i>said</i>
First event* _____	Action, action, action clues	Numbers date/time/value	Good insightful question(s)	High interest then what’s next	Talking and thinking
Identify _____	In the middle	Location transition	Imagine this...	Positive sweet with a negative sour	Action and words
Support _____	Zoom in & describe	Adverb comma	It’s complicated and complex	For the first time ever...	Tell me about it
Reflection _____	Intentional repetition	Ing phrases present participles	Now...back then	Define it	
Second event _____	Pop culture reference	“Ed” phrases	We...statements of unity	AKS – proper nouns	
Identify _____	Personification People characteristics	Onomatopoeia (sound)	Call to action	In other words (restatement)	
Support _____	Set the stage		Hyperbole! Exaggerate!	Important and significant	
Reflection _____	I, we, they think			Love, love, love	
Final outcome _____				Historical reference	
Occasion _____					
Insight _____					
Parting thought _____					

Vivid language**

Dialogue

Specific details

Sentence Variations

Compound sentence with correct comma usage before the FANBOYS _____

Complex sentences with correct comma, based on subordinate conjunction placement _____

Bonus! Compound complex sentences with correct comma usage _____

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

_____ 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.

