

Personal Narrative Prompt

Look at the picture below.



It doesn't take much to lend a helping hand.

Write about a time when you were helpful.

Be sure to –

- write about a personal experience
- organize your writing
- develop your ideas in detail
- choose words carefully
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences

Personal Narrative Planning Organizer **Sample for Guided Writing**

"Who" and "what" Occasion of the	Occasion or central idea <small>Note: must meet demands of the prompt</small>	Helping a stray cat
	Significant characters	A cat, my parents, and myself
Introduction	Set the stage	"See you later!" I called to my friends. As I parked my bike, I jumped back suddenly dropping my books.
	First event	At my feet, was a hissing cat that seemed to like scaring me when I walked by.
Body	Second event	Mom said the cat probably meant no harm. She said most stray animals are just trying to stay out of harm's way.
	Third event	The next day the cat hissed at me again. When I approached it, I discovered it was hiding two tiny kittens.
	Fourth event	That night there was a big storm. I worried about the cat and her kittens.
Closing	Final outcome	I fixed a box, a bowl of fresh cat food, and water and placed it near the cat.
		Parting Thought As I entered my house, I felt good knowing this cat was now better able to keep herself and her kittens out of harm's way. Maybe she even had a new home.

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: Helping a stray cat

Significant characters (SC): A cat, my parents, and myself
(hook)

Set the stage - "See you later!" I called to my friends. As I parked my bike, I jumped back suddenly dropping my books.

II. Body

1st Event - At my feet, was a hissing cat that seemed to like scaring me when I walked by.

2nd Event - Mom said the cat probably meant no harm. She said most stray animals are just trying to stay out of harm's way.

3rd Event- The next day the cat hissed at me again. When I approached it, I discovered it was hiding two tiny kittens.

4th Event- That night there was a big storm. I worried about the cat and her kittens.

III. Closing

Final outcome: I fixed a box, a bowl of fresh cat food, and water and placed it near the cat.

Parting thought - As I entered my house, I felt good knowing this cat was now better able to keep herself and her kittens out of harm's way. Maybe she even had a new home.

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 reader's attention. Use this "set the stage" idea or develop one with a similar idea.

I. Introduction

CI - Helping a stray cat

Set the stage - "See you later!" I called to my friends. As I parked my bike, I jumped back suddenly dropping my books.

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- At my feet, was a hissing cat that seemed to like scaring me when I walked by.

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- Mom said the cat probably meant no harm. She said most stray animals are just trying to stay out of harm's way.

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- The next day the cat hissed at me again. When I approached it, I discovered it was hiding two tiny kittens.

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

4th Event- That night there was a big storm. I worried about the cat and her kittens.

- 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: I fixed a box, a bowl of fresh cat food, and water and placed it near the cat.

Parting thought - As I entered my house, I felt good knowing this cat was now better able to keep herself and her kittens out of harm's way. Maybe she even had a new home.

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.

Suggested Reading and Mentor Text

How to Heal a Broken Wing by Bob Graham

Summary – One small boy, one loving family, and one lucky little bird make this story a great book to read. In a city full of hurried people, only one little boy notices a bird lying hurt on the ground. With the help of his family, they nurse the bird back to good health and send it back to its natural home.

Amazon link

http://www.amazon.com/How-Heal-Broken-Wing-Graham/dp/0763639036/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1404400382&sr=1-1&keywords=how+to+heal+a+broken+wing

