

Personal Narrative Prompt

Look at the picture below.



Sometimes things in our lives seem bad at first but turned out to be good.

Tell the story of the event that you experienced and help your readers understand how an event that seemed negative turned out to have valuable consequences.

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>	Moving to a different school during the start of sixth grade
	Significant characters	I
Introduction	Set the stage	My parents thought it would be a good idea to take me out of public school and move me to a private school.
	First event	I had heard that it was a very good school due to its rigorous academics. Hearing this made me despise it more.
Body	Second event	I did not want to leave my friends in public school and have to start all over with making new friends.
	Third event	My parents reassured me that going to this new school would give me better opportunities in life because of the superior curriculum.
	Fourth event	I loved my first year at the new school; I made many friends and learned how to be a better student.
Closing	Final outcome	Although the work might be challenging at times, I have learned to appreciate all the valuable education I have received. Parting Thought Even though moving to a different school seemed to be negative for me, I embraced the challenges and pushed through. Moving to a new school was a very good decision, and I am thankful that my parents gave me that opportunity.

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: Moving to a different school during the start of sixth grade

Significant characters (SC): I

(hook)

Set the stage – My parents thought it would be a good idea to take me out of public school and move me to a private school.

II. Body

1st Event – I had heard that it was a very good school due to its rigorous academics. Hearing this made me despise it more.

2nd Event – I did not want to leave my friends in public school and have to start all over with making new friends.

3rd Event – My parents reassured me that going to this new school would give me better opportunities in life because of the superior curriculum.

4th Event – I loved my first year at the new school; I made many friends and learned how to be a better student.

III. Closing

Final outcome: Although the work might be challenging at times, I have learned to appreciate all the valuable education I have received.

Parting thought – Even though moving to a different school seemed to be negative for me, I embraced the challenges and pushed through. Moving to a new school was a very good decision, and I am thankful that my parents gave me that opportunity.

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 – Moving to a different school during the start of sixth grade

Set the stage – My parents thought it would be a good idea to take me out of public school and move me to a private school.

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– I had heard that it was a very good school due to its rigorous academics. Hearing this made me despise it more.

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– I did not want to leave my friends in public school and have to start all over with making new friends.

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– My parents reassured me that going to this new school would give me better opportunities in life because of the superior curriculum.

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.

4th Event- I loved my first year at the new school; I made many friends and learned how to be a better student.

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: Although the work might be challenging at times, I have learned to appreciate all the valuable education I have received.

Parting thought - Even though moving to a different school seemed to be negative for me, I embraced the challenges and pushed through. Moving to a new school was a very good decision, and I am thankful that my parents gave me that opportunity.

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 _____						
Final outcome _____		I, we, they think			Love, love, love	
Occasion _____					Historical reference	
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.

