Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_#\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

For the rest of the month we will work on the idea of the Personal Narrative. Essentially you are taking an experience and writing it down. The experiences you choose should be vivid and describable. They shouldn’t be embellished but instead should include actual events how you saw them. Each week you will choose between prompts. At the conclusion of week 4, you will choose your best piece of writing to create a final draft for submission. You will get 15 points per draft with the final counting for 40 points. Those of you doing the math, this is a 100 point assignment! Wowza!

**Week 1 9/8 Judgment**

1. People often say “Don’t judge a book by its cover.” Describe a time when you misjudged someone based on his or her appearance or when someone misjudged you.
2. It is often said that you should never judge another person until you walk in his or her shoes. Tell about an experience that enabled you to better understand another person.

**Week 2 9/15 Growing Up**

1. When we reflect upon our childhood, we often come back to a few key events that had a major impact on us. Tell about one of those defining events from your childhood.
2. It is often both frightening and exciting to do something on our own for the first time. Tell about a time when you first did something on your own.

**Week 3 9/22 Choices**

1. Recall a time when you found yourself in a perilous situation. Tell the story of how you got into that situation and how you survived it.
2. Many writers have dealt with the theme of a character losing control and going beyond reason. Describe a time in your life when you lost control, and tell why.

**Week 4 9/29 Grab Bag**

1. Parents are our first and most important teachers. Describe a time when you learned a valuable lesson from one of your parents.
2. Our dreams often reflect our subconscious fears and desires. Tell about a time you had a very troubling or enlightening dream.

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| **NARRATIVE**  **ESSAY** | **4**  **(above grade level)** | **3**  **(at grade level)** | **2**  **(approaching grade level)** | **1**  **(below grade level)** |
| **Exposition** | ~Uniquely establishes the story including setting, point of view, narrator and/or characters | ~Establishes the story including setting, point of view, narrator and/or characters | ~Establishes the story, but may lack setting, point of view, narrator and/or characters | ~Does not establish story elements |
| **Organization** | ~Expertly organizes an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically. | ~Adequately organizes an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically. | ~Minimally organizes an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically. | ~Lack of event sequence throughout story |
| **Narrative Techniques** | ~Expertly uses dialogue (when appropriate), pacing, description and reflection to develop experiences, characters, and events | ~Uses dialogue (when appropriate), pacing, description and reflection to develop experiences, characters, and events | ~Minimally uses dialogue (when appropriate), pacing, description and reflection to develop experiences, characters, and events | ~Lacks dialogue (when appropriate), pacing, description and reflection to develop experiences, characters, and events |
| **Transitions** | ~Uses a variety of complex transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another and shows relationships from experiences and events. | ~Uses a variety of basic transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another and shows relationships from experiences and events. | ~Uses a limited variety of complex transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another and shows relationships from experiences and events. | ~Lacks a variety of complex transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another and shows relationships from experiences and events. |
| **Precise Language** | ~Expertly uses precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events | ~Adequately uses precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events | ~Minimally uses precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events | ~Lack of precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events |
| **Conclusion** | ~Expertly provides a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events | ~Adequately provides a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events | ~Minimally provides a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events | ~Lacks a conclusion |