

## Weekly Writing Packet—Narrative— May 18 - May 22

This week you are going to write a narrative. Write a short, 5 paragraph story where you are the main character that solves a problem or works towards a goal. When writing a short story, the entire story should take place in one setting (time and place). It should take your character an hour to solve the problem. This is not an epic journey over time and space. Hint: Once you have thought of a problem for your character to solve, jump to the end. How will they solve the problem? Once you know how your character will solve the problem it is easier to plan the middle steps that connect the beginning and the end.

### WRITING PROMPT

Write a personal narrative about a interesting small moment you have experienced during the past several weeks of being homeschooled. Choose a problem you experienced or a goal you wanted to accomplish. Remember to tell the story using an interesting and exciting voice.

**You will use a research planning sheet to plan for a Narrative Essay. Then you will go through the writing process to complete your Narrative essay.**

**You will go through the writing process in one week.**

- \_\_\_ (Monday) Plan
- \_\_\_ (Tuesday) Draft a 5 Paragraph Narrative essay
- \_\_\_ (Wednesday) Edit your Narrative essay
- \_\_\_ (Thursday) Revise one part of your Narrative essay
- \_\_\_ (Friday) Revise another part, or publish your Narrative essay

**Remember to skip a line and indent after each section of your draft. Do not put each section on a separate sheet of paper.**

- \_\_\_ Write your draft on a separate paper. Write any revisions on a separate sheet of paper.
- \_\_\_ Keep your planning sheets, draft and revisions in a folder.
- \_\_\_ Use the attached directions and checklists to ensure you have the best drafts.

## Plan Personal Narrative Outline - Monday

**Directions:** You are the character for this story. Think of a problem or goal you wanted to accomplish.

**BEGINNING**—Decide on a problem or goal for your character to solve. What personality trait are you going to show them have that will either cause the problem or help them solve the problem? Where is this story going to take place? How are you going to describe the setting?

**Character Name/Trait** \_\_\_\_\_

**Problem/Goal?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Setting?** \_\_\_\_\_

**RISING ACTION**—Your character is working to solve their problem or complete a task. Consider the steps your character is doing. Are they trying something and failing, or are they taking small steps to solve the problem?

First, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Then, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Next \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**ENDING**—(Climax / Resolution) How is your character going to solve this problem? What lesson is your character going to learn? Finally,

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## WRITING — Draft a Narrative—Grade 4—Wednesday

Today, you are going to quickly draft an narrative using your planning sheet.

Your goal is to start and finish the Narrative draft within 1 hour.

- **STAY FOCUSED.** Make sure you stay focused on your character’s problem. If it doesn’t help solve the problem, do not write it down.
- **KEEP WRITING.** Refer to your plan when you get stuck.
- **USE YOUR CHECKLIST and PLANNING SHEET.** Your checklist is everything you need in your essay. If you cannot think of what to write next, look at your checklist and your facts. Your planning sheet has all your facts and ideas.
- **DO NOT WORRY ABOUT SPELLING.** Spell words the best you can. Spell them how they sound. Circle any word you are unsure about. You can always fix it during the editing phase.
- **BE SPECIFIC.** Avoid words like stuff, things and it unless you have explained what these things are. Your reader cannot read your mind.
- **READREAD.** Once you are finished with your essay, reread it again 2 times.

**1st REREAD**—Does it look right, sound right and make sense.

Did you accidently forget a word? Did you accidently write a word twice?

Notice when you pause. Did you add punctuation? ( . ? ! , )

Do you have a capital letter at the beginning of each sentence and with names?

Did you start a sentence with And, But, Because, Or

**2nd REREAD**—Use your checklist. Reread your essay and point to each part of the checklist that is in your essay. If you forget a part, add it in.

### Author’s Craft—Use an Author’s Craft to Elaborate Your Story

<u>Dialogue</u>	<u>Inner Thinking</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Similes</u>
Show your character talking. Use quotation marks around the words your character says. Use words such as; yelled, cried, whispered, said softly, and others to show how your character sounds.	Show what your character is thinking.	Shows what your character is doing. Use action to show your character’s personality. Use action to show how your character solves the problem.	Compares two things using as, like or than.  She was smart <u>as</u> a scientist. He was fast <u>like</u> lightning It was harder <u>than</u> iron.

## NARRATIVE CHECKLIST

### \_\_\_ I Map out my Idea. (5 - 15 min.)

\_\_\_ I know an interesting, small moment story that can be told in parts.

\_\_\_ I know what my character wants to do, or their problem.

\_\_\_ I know the steps my character takes to solve the problem.

### \_\_\_ I WRITE my Beginning ( 10-15 min.)

\_\_\_ I describe the **setting**.

\_\_\_ I introduce the **character** and show their personality

\_\_\_ I introduce a **problem or struggle** for my character (PLOT).

\_\_\_ I ELABORATE using

\_\_\_ "dialogue"

\_\_\_ inner-thinking actions,

\_\_\_ revealing action

### \_\_\_ I WRITE the middle in 3 paragraphs, the Rising Action, (10-15 min. each)

\_\_\_ I include transition words or phrases to **connect the parts of my story**.

\_\_\_ My character is focused on the struggle or problem.

\_\_\_ I leave out unimportant details and tell more about the important parts.

\_\_\_ I ELABORATE using:

\_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ "dialogue" (in each part)

\_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ inner-thinking actions, (in each part)

\_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ revealing action (in each part)

\_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ simile ( Add one or two similes in your story)

### \_\_\_ I WRITE my Ending (Resolution). (10-15 min.)

\_\_\_ My ending connects to the plot of my story.

\_\_\_ I ELABORATE using

\_\_\_ "dialogue"

\_\_\_ inner-thinking actions,

\_\_\_ revealing action

\_\_\_ My character learns a lesson about themselves or life.

**REREAD** \_\_\_ Does it sound right, Extra words, Missing words, Punctuation, Capitals.

\_\_\_ Reread again to see if you have all the parts of the essay (Use the checklist)

## WRITING — Edit/Revise and Publish a Narrative — Wed. to Fri.

Over the next three days you will edit, revise and publish your narrative. When you revise you will read your draft and identify one part you did well, and one part you want to make better. You will rewrite only that part.

### EDIT YOUR ESSAY WEDNESDAY — Reread your Narrative

- \_\_\_ **Does it sound right?** Do you have extra words or missing words,
- \_\_\_ **Punctuation.** Notice where you pause in your reading. Is there commas and ending Punctuation?
- \_\_\_ **Capitals.** Do you have Capitals at the beginning of each sentence, with names, and the word I?
- \_\_\_ **Dialogue.** Do you have quotation marks around the words your characters say?
- \_\_\_ **Paragraphs.** Is each part of your story in its own section? Do you indent each new paragraph?
- \_\_\_ **Spelling.** Are your words spelled correctly? Use a dictionary, or google to help you spell words.
- \_\_\_ **Neatness.** Is your handwriting neat so others can read it? Are you forming your letters correctly?

### REVISE YOUR NARRATIVE THURSDAY (reread your narrative the weakest part to revise.)

- \_\_\_ **Write a new Beginning.** Elaborate the setting, show the character's personality more. Change the dialogue, inner thinking, simile. Try a different beginning.
- \_\_\_ **Write a new step in the Rising Action.** Elaborate the setting, show the character's personality more. Change the dialogue, thinking, simile. Try a different step in the action. What could your character have done differently, more focused?)
- \_\_\_ **Write a new Ending.** Elaborate the setting, show the character's personality more. Change the dialogue, thinking, simile. Try a different ending.

### PUBLISH NARRATIVE FRIDAY

- \_\_\_ **Rewrite or Type** your narrative using the edited and revised changes.

**HINT: What you learned from editing and revising your draft, practice doing it the next time you write your first draft.**