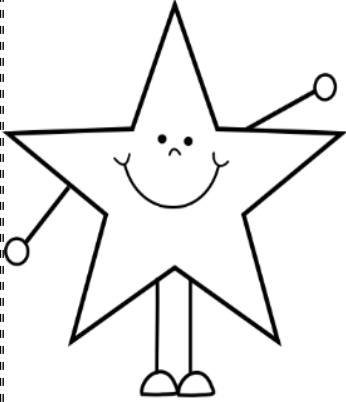


The Writing Process Step 1:

Brainstorming

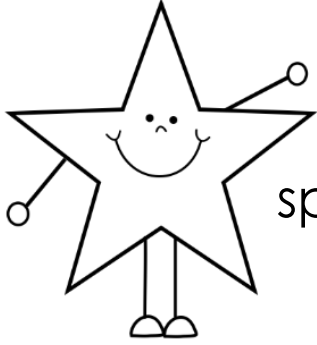


When you brainstorm ideas for a personal narrative, you want to focus on a small moment. You want to select a story that is small enough for you to write about in detail. When you brainstorm, think **Tiny Seed Ideas vs. Watermelon Ideas.**

Tiny Seed Ideas	VS. Watermelon Ideas
• The time I rode space mountain • The time I kicked the winning goal • The time I won the school-wide spelling bee	• My vacation to Disney World • Playing soccer • My fourth grade school year

The Writing Process Step 2:

Drafting



When you draft a personal narrative, you want to provide your reader with enough specific details of the event so it feels like they are in the story with you. To help you draft, think **FEAST** as you write each paragraph.

F

Figurative
Language

E

Emotions

A

Actions

S

Scenery

T

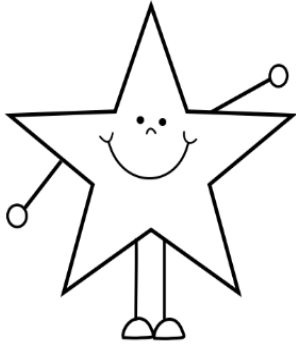
Thoughts or
Dialogue

Can you find examples of FEAST in this paragraph?

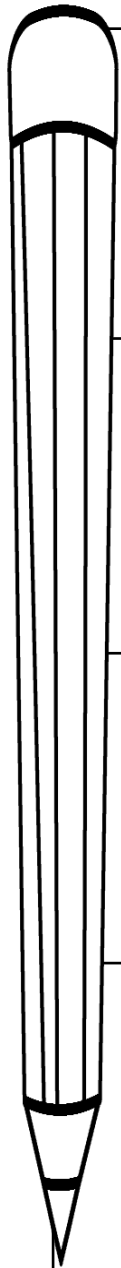
As I slowly climbed the ladder I could feel the butterflies in my stomach going crazy. I was so nervous. I really wish my mom hadn't talked me into joining the diving team. This was my first time diving in a real competition, and I hadn't mastered my dive in practice yet. "I can do this" I thought to myself as I kept climbing. When I reached the end of the board, I looked down. The crystal clear water seemed to be a mile away. I took in a deep breath. "Here goes nothing" I said.

The Writing Process Step 3:

Revising



When you revise, you want to refine your writing. You want to make sure you are clearly communicating your ideas to your reader. To help you revise, think **ARMS**!



A

Add

- ☐ Add sentences to clarify meaning
- ☐ Add words that are more descriptive
- ☐ Add figurative language to make your writing interesting to the reader

R

Remove

- ☐ Remove sentences that aren't necessary
- ☐ Remove incomplete sentences
- ☐ Remove words that are boring or redundant

M

Move

- ☐ Move sentences that don't belong
- ☐ Move adjectives so they describe nouns and adverbs so they describe verbs

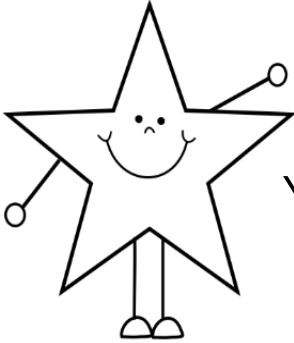
S

Substitute

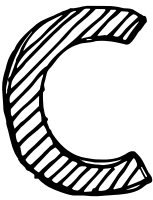
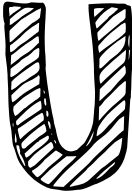
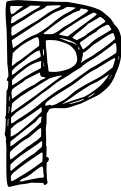
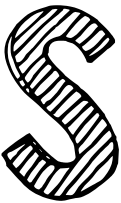
- ☐ Trade exciting words for boring words
- ☐ Use a thesaurus to find synonyms for over used words

The Writing Process Step 4:

Editing

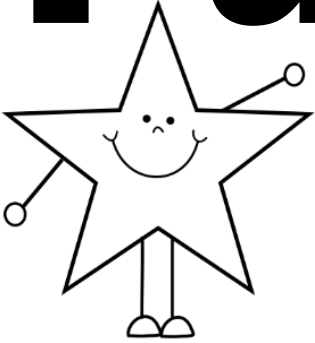


When you edit, you want to clean up your writing. You want to read through it carefully. Your goal is to find and fix any mistakes before you publish. To help you edit, think **CUPS**!

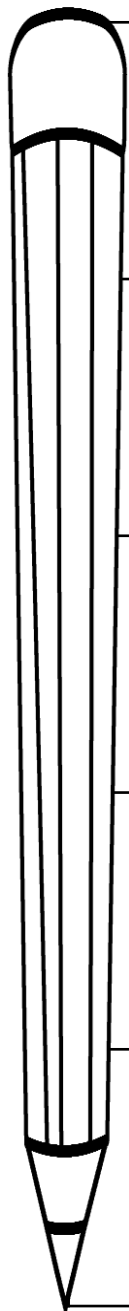
 Capitalization	☐ The first letter of every sentence is capitalized ☐ Proper nouns are capitalized ☐ Dates are capitalized ☐ Titles are capitalized
 Usage	☐ Subject verb agreement is correct ☐ Plurals are used correctly ☐ All adverbs describe verbs ☐ All adjectives describe nouns
 Punctuation	☐ End punctuation is correct (periods, question marks, exclamation points) ☐ Quotation marks are properly used for all thoughts and dialogue ☐ Commas are used appropriately
 Spelling	☐ Check through all words closely ☐ Try your hardest to find any errors ☐ Use a dictionary, the word wall or have a buddy check words you aren't certain are spelled correctly

The Writing Process Step 5:

Publishing



When you publish, you are writing your piece for the final time. Your goal is to create a perfect piece of writing. To help you publish, think **FLASH!**



F Format	☐ You should have 3-5 paragraphs: ☐ Introduction ☐ 1-3 Body Paragraphs ☐ Conclusion
L Looks	☐ Include illustrations or a title page that are appealing to look at
A Accuracy	☐ Accurately copy your revised and edited draft to your final copy
S Spacing	☐ Make sure there is even spacing between all your words ☐ Create an even margin on both sides
H Handwriting	☐ Use your neatest handwriting ☐ Make sure your letters are appropriate sizes and shapes