

## Sample Personal Narrative Brainstorming Pages

**Directions:** Think about your life and some of the moments that stand out to you. Generate at least three possible incidents from your life that you could turn into a narrative. Jot ideas in each column:

- **Incident:** In general, what was the incident that occurred? (What would you call your narrative?)
- **Sequence of Events:** What happened first, next, then, and last? Use objective language to describe four to six specific moments of how the action unfolded.
- **Perspectives:** Who is telling the story? Who else was there who could tell their side? What qualities does each person or character possess that would make their experience unique?

| Incident    | Sequence of Events                                                                                                         | Perspectives                                                                                                        |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Soccer Game | Elaina becomes goalie<br>Teams cheer<br>Jade sets up penalty kick<br>Jade kicks<br>Elaina misses<br>Jade's team celebrates | Me (Elaina)<br><br>Freshman<br>Only played goalie once before<br>Don't like to lose                                 |
|             |                                                                                                                            | Jade (the girl on the other team)<br><br>Senior<br>Played on soccer team all of high school<br>Doesn't like to lose |

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|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Poetry Slam | People present their poems<br>Some good poems, some bad poems<br>Elaina takes the stage to present<br>Whole room + Elaina = totally silent<br>Avery tries to encourage Elaina<br>Elaina runs away! | Me (Elaina)<br><br>Poet<br>Never read to an audience before<br>Sometimes get stage fright                                                          |
|             |                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Avery (my friend)<br><br>Loves to read and listen to poetry<br>Loves to support my friends<br>Doesn't love public speaking                         |
| Talent Show | Elaina takes the stage<br>Elaina performs her original piano piece<br>Audience gives standing ovation<br>Other students perform<br>Time for judging/results<br>Elaina wins!                        | Me (Elaina)<br><br>Love to write and play music → always practicing<br>Want to make family proud<br>Get super nervous in front of crowds           |
|             |                                                                                                                                                                                                    | My dad<br><br>Life-long musician<br>So proud of my talented daughter, taught her everything I know about music<br>Would do anything to support her |