

ELA 8

Personal Narrative

Task: Write a true story about a memory or experience that has had an impact on your life. Include **how** this memory affected you. **Your story should be at least 500 words.**

Steps:

- Brainstorm using Elaboration Techniques
- Write out a rough draft by hand in ink using a pen and then ...

Type (word process) your paper (14 pt font and double spaced). Use Google Docs. Make sure you spell check. Turn in the paper through Google Classroom

- Staple this Rubric to your hand-written rough draft and hand it in after you have turned in your typed copy through Google Classroom

As you **brainstorm**, be sure to:

- Tell: Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How
- focus on one central event
- set the scene; make the setting clear
- use vivid description to create an emotional mood
- “name names”: use specific words
- use similes and metaphors
- reflect upon your experience and tell the **lesson** you learned

Reflection Questions:

1. Did you clearly set the scene of your event and describe the situation in detail?
2. Did you use **dialogue** effectively to help the reader relive the scene?
3. Did you offer insights about what you learned from your experience?

Resources: ELA Text Pack; handouts 35-1, 35-2, 36-1; Punctuating Dialogue; “Papa Was an American”; “Two Tickets to the Big Game”; “A Little Coaching”; “At the Pictures”