



## How to Write a NARRATIVE



### PLAN

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

WHEN - WHO - WHAT - Set the scene (past continuous)

**MAIN PART:** What happened before, during and after the main event.

**CONCLUSION:** What happened in the end?  
How did you / the characters **feel**?

**Make sure you use the appropriate tenses.** The most useful tenses when writing a story are:

**Past Simple** (used when narrating a sequence of events) I got up, went to the kitchen, drank my coffee and went to bed again.

**Past Continuous** (used when describing the background scenes or when referring to interrupted events)

**Past Perfect** (used when describing earlier events or situations)

**Past perfect continuous**

I was happy because my mum had given me .....

I was very tired because I had been studying for hours

**Make your writing interesting by using a variety of structures:**

∞ **the Passive Voice - Conditionals.**

∞ **Direct speech:** to make a situation seem real.

“Come here right now!” my mum yelled

∞ **Very short sentences:** to excite the reader.

And there he was, eating my cake. Unbelievable.

∞ **Questions or exclamation marks:** to vary the style.

∞ **Wish + past perfect**

∞ **Gerunds**

∞ **Modals**

**Use linking words/phrases to join your sentences and paragraphs:**

**Time:** since – before – before long – when – as soon as – just as – while – as – during – immediately – some time later – soon – then – next – at the beginning – at first – **in** the end / eventually – finally – at last – until – by the time

**Contrast:** but – **while** – **meanwhile** - however – although – even though - despite - in spite of

I was doing my homework **while** my mum was cooking.

I was doing my homework. **Meanwhile**, my mum...



**Cause – reason:** because – because of – as – since - due to - in order to

It was too good to be true.

I was out of breath. It was a narrow escape.

It made me jump. My hair stood on end.

I burst out laughing. **I laughed my head off.** I burst into tears.

It was a real shock. I was as white as a sheet.

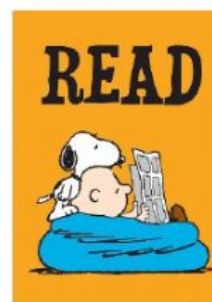
It was getting on my nerves.

It happened out of the blue / all at once. It all happened .....

Without any warning, ....

I was taken by surprise. To my surprise / disappointment / relief, ...

I flushed with embarrassment. I flushed and looked away.



Write about a trip / holiday / day you will always remember.

**ALWAYS  
— ON —  
MY MIND**

