

Read

I. Read the text, then answer the exercise.

Biography

Biographies are how we learn information about another human being's life. Whether you want to start writing a biography about a famous person, historical figure, or an influential family member, it's important to know all the elements that make a biography worth both writing and reading.

What Is a Biography?

A biography is a detailed third person account of another person's life story. It contains basic information about the subject's life—like their place of birth, education, and interests. A biography may also chronicle relationships with family members, as well as major events in the subject's childhood and how those influenced their upbringing. A biography details the various accomplishments and life events of a real person, but it's more than facts and figures—it comes to life with great stories told from beginning to middle to end.

What Is the Purpose of a Biography?

The purpose of a biography is to share the life of another person with an audience. An author may choose to write a biography because they find the subject's story to be interesting or to have themes that apply to life today. Some authors choose to write a biography due to a lack of information about an interesting subject, or to update the public with facts that an existing biography may have missed. Biographical stories can be inspiring—highlighting the achievements of a particular figure, pointing out ways the subject overcame hardship—giving the readers a sense of encouragement. Biographies can also serve as cautionary tales, warning readers on who not to become.

To write the story of a person's life, you need to know more than just the basic facts. A good biography delves into what is really interesting about a person's life—noteworthy achievements, moments of adversity, and major turning points. The best biography can encapsulate a subject's entire life in an engaging way and provide enough personal details to give the reader an intimate look at their character.

A. Write T if the statement is true or F if it is false.

1. You can write a biography of any person, famous or not.
2. A biography has to include elements that are worth writing and reading.
3. A biography is a detailed third person account of your life story. It contains basic information about the subject's life.
4. A biography has to include: place of birth, education, and interests; chronicle relationships with family members, as well as major events in the subject's childhood and how those influenced their upbringing.
5. To write a biography is necessary to know only the basic details of the person's life.
6. A good biography includes what it is really interesting about a person's life.
7. A good biography provides enough personal details to engage and give the reader an intimate look at the character.
