

Narrative Essay Writing



Think of a time someone has helped you. **Write an essay about your experience below.** Use your prewriting timeline graphic organizer to keep your ideas in order. **Be sure to use the writer's checklist and sample essay below for assistance.**

Introduction- Start your essay with a question, strong statement or dialogue (someone talking). Introduce the person that helped you. Also write how you feel about your helper.

3 to 4 sentences)

Middle paragraph 1- Start writing how it all began. Start with the main idea. Share the actions and details. Share thoughts ideas and feelings.

4 to 5 sentences

Middle paragraph 2- Share more details. Start with the main idea. Write what was said using quotation marks. “ ” Tell how the problem was solved.

4 to 5 sentences

Conclusion- Restate why this person's help was so important. Share more about how you feel about the person.

3 sentences

Writer's Checklist

Ideas

- ___ 1. Do I tell about one helpful person?
- ___ 2. Do I include sensory details?

Organization

- ___ 3. Do my beginning, middle, and ending work well?
- ___ 4. Are my details in time order?

Voice

- ___ 5. Does my voice sound like me?
- ___ 6. Do I use transitions to move the story along?

Word Choice

- ___ 7. Have I used action verbs?

Sentence Fluency

- ___ 8. Have I varied my sentence beginnings?
- ___ 9. Have I varied the lengths of my sentences?

Conventions

Punctuation

- ___ 1. Did I use end punctuation after all my sentences?
- ___ 2. Did I put quotation marks around words people said?

Capitalization

- ___ 3. Did I start all my sentences with capital letters?
- ___ 4. Did I correctly capitalize proper nouns?

Spelling

- ___ 5. Have I carefully checked my spelling?

Grammar

- ___ 6. Did I use correct verbs (*he plays*, not *he play*)?
- ___ 7. Did I make sure to use the right word (*to*, *too*, *two*)?

8. Did I use transitions- first, second, next, finally, in conclusion, It all started when...

Sample Essay

Skateboard Emergency 9-1-1

Have you ever had a terrible day? On my terrible day, I broke my arm. Luckily, my good friend Brandon was with me. He is one of the most helpful people I know.

One Saturday, Brandon and I were skateboarding. I fell and got hurt. Brandon ran and found my mom. When I came back from the hospital, I had a heavy plaster cast on my right arm. That's the arm I use the most. My arm felt hot and itchy, and I couldn't bend my elbow. I felt as helpless as a baby.

"Don't worry," Brandon said, "I'll help you."

At school, he carried my lunch tray. He wrote things down for me in class. After school, he helped me put on my coat and boots. Whenever there was something I couldn't do, Brandon was there to help me.

The day I broke my arm was terrible, but I had a great helper. Now my arm is fine. Brandon and I play ball and go skateboarding just like before. I'll never forget what Brandon did for me when I needed a helping hand.

