

Name: _____

Date: _____

Draft # _____

(Front Side)

Fantastic Writers Weekly Writing PERSONAL NARRATIVE Brainstorming Sheet

Step 1: My prompt is: _____

Step 2: (Choose at least 4 topics/ideas that are very different and strongly related to your prompt)

Example #2: If your prompt is to write a personal narrative about a day that you spent with your very best friend, possible topics could be: When I went to the movies for the first time with Harshil; When I went to Six Flags with Susanna; When Cody and I went on a camping trip in East Texas.

Step 3: Place a ***big star*** next to **the best idea/topic** and write it here (this is what you're writing about): _____

Step 4: Write your central idea AND BACKGROUND INFO in the box below (**must be a complete sentence and clearly show what your experience is going to be about and its importance!!**)

My Central Idea Sentence is: _____

Background info: (what readers need to know to understand your topic/essay and has the SETTING)

Step 5-6: List only the top 3 most important events in your experience in order and explain why they are important. Example: 1st event was: went fishing. It is Important to me because it was my 1st time doing it. **EVENTS WILL BE USED TO FORM PARAGRAPHS.**

Step 5: Sequence of VERY important events:
Begin each event with a transition word!!!!!!

Step 6: WHY IS THIS EVENT IMPORTANT?
Show & don't tell the event's importance!

1st Event (Body Paragraph 1):

Important because:

2nd Event (Body Paragraph 2):

Important because:

Step 7: Describe at least 4 DIFFERENT sensory details to be used in your story.

I saw: _____ It looked like: _____

I saw: _____ It looked like: _____

I touched: _____ It felt like: _____

I heard: _____ It sounded like: _____

I smelled: _____ It smelled like: _____

Step 8: Brainstorm your 6 best titles (you must think long and hard about this! The prompt can't be in your title)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Step 9: Choose your absolute best title by placing a ***big star*** next to your choice.

Step 10:ATTENTION GRABBER: _____

NOTES: Personal Narratives are typically written in 1st person, include plenty of meaningful dialogue, sensory details and descriptions (adjectives and adverbs) THE WRITER MUST ACTUALLY BE IN THE STORY AND REALLY SHOW, NOT TELL the EXPERIENCE, and written in active voice (***NO "TO BE VERBS"***). The story must not be "made up" and IS ULTIMATELY DESIGNED TO ENTERTAIN THE READER!!!!