

Narrative Memoir Writing Prompts

*A good memoir will tell a story that reveals something unique about you. Choose 1 of the prompts...

- 1) What's a song that brings back memories for you? Listen to the song (if you don't have a recording, you can probably find it on Youtube.com), and travel back in your mind to a time that it makes you remember. Spend a few minutes inside that memory, reliving it in as much detail as possible. Then write about that memory, trying to recreate it on the page.

- 2) Write about a conversation that had an impact on your life. Show the scene where the conversation happened, and try to reconstruct parts of the dialogue word-for-word on the page so that readers can "hear" it first-hand.

- 3) Look at a photograph of your family. What memories does it bring back? Focus on one of the memories, trying to recall sounds, smells, and other sensations, as well as what things looked like. Then write about it, recreating the scene for the reader.

- 4) What is your happiest childhood memory? Your saddest memory?

- 5) What schoolmate had the most impact on your life? In what way?

- 6) A time when I decided to do something differently from everyone else around me was...

- 7) The worst thing that has ever happened to me is...

Narrative Memoir Writing Specifications

Your paper must contain the following:

MLA

Typed

Memory

Tells a story

Details → show; don't tell!

Literary devices → 3 → bold 1, italicize 2, & underline 3

Simile

Onomatopoeia

Hyperbole

Allusion

Alliteration

Multiple paragraphs

At least 2 pages

Title

Conventions

Focus Correction Sheet

Narrative Memoir Writing Rubric

MLA	10
Typed	10
Memory	30
Tells a story	30
Details → show; don't tell!	20
Literary devices → 3	45
Simile	
<i>Onomatopoeia</i>	
<u>Hyperbole</u>	
<u>Allusion</u>	
<u>Alliteration</u>	
Multiple paragraphs	10
At least 2 pages	10
Title	5
Conventions	20
Focus Correction Sheet	10
TOTAL	200

Comments:

Focus Correction Sheet → Narrative Memoir Writing

My story is about.... (Can you do it in 6 Words? → BONUS)

1st literary device →

Sentence from my paper →

2nd literary device →

Sentence from my paper →

3rd literary device →

Sentence from my paper →

For a +5 on anything, have your parent/guardian read your memoir, sign this form, & make a comment about your writing.

Signature:

Comment: