

Personal Narrative of Place

Purpose:

- ✓ articulate how a specific place or environment has impacted your perspective about who you are and how you view other people.
- ✓ learn how to tell a good story using narrative techniques.

General Instructions:

Write about a specific event that you associate with a place. Narrate that event using techniques we discuss in class, including: close description, time management, dramatic tension/beginnings and endings and characterization. We will go over these terms in class and read examples of narratives.

Reflection Memo: (1-2 pages): (worth an additional 50 points)

Answer any of the following questions (two minimum) in paragraph form:

- ✓ What was the toughest part of this assignment/most difficult writing for you?
- ✓ What came easiest in writing it?
- ✓ Who would be the best audience for your narrative?
- ✓ What would you hope that they would take away?
- ✓ Was there any point in writing your essay that you could see your perspective changing about the subject matter?
- ✓ What assumptions did you bring to your narrative before you actually wrote it? What challenged those assumptions?

Requirements:

5-7 pages, MLA format

Rubric:

25	20	15	10	5<
Masterful/Original		Good	Average	There but flawed	Missing/Unacceptable

Narrative clarity: 25 points

Did it seem like the narrative was crafted to have a compelling beginning, suspenseful middle, and satisfying end?

Did it seem like the author was able to make meaning out of these events, rather than just tell them?

Command of timeline/tense: 25%

How well did the author manage time?

Was the reader ever confused about time/place?

Description/Imagery (uses five senses): 25%

Can the reader picture what's going on?

Are the descriptions detailed and are the details specific?

Did the author use all five senses to describe things?

Format/Grammar/Punctuation: 25%

Does it look like the author proofread this? (For instance, were proper nouns capitalized?)

Was there any sentence the reader had to read twice to understand?