

HOW TO WRITE A NARRATION

To write a **narrative** essay, you'll need to tell a story (usually about something that happened to you) in such a way that the audience learns a lesson.

Tips for writing effective narrative and descriptive essays:

- Tell a story about a moment or event that means a lot to you--it will make it easier for you to tell the story in an interesting way!
- **Get right to the action!** Avoid long introductions and lengthy descriptions--especially at the beginning of your narrative.
- **Make sure your story has a point! Describe what you learned from this experience.**
- **Use all five of your senses** to describe the setting, characters, and the plot of your story. Don't be afraid to tell the story in your own voice. Nobody wants to read a story that sounds like a textbook!

Avoid simply telling us what something looks like--tell us how it tastes, smells, sounds, or feels!

Avoid abstract language—it won't help the reader understand what you're trying to say!

Examples:

Abstract: It was a nice day.

Concrete: The sun was shining and a slight breeze blew across my face.

Abstract: Mr. Smith was a great teacher.

Concrete: Mr. Smith really knew how to help us turn our thoughts into good stories and essays.

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