

Unit 3: Narrative Essays

Step 1: Stimulating Ideas

Exercise 1: Thinking about the topic

A. Answer the questions.

B. Make notes about three important events or experiences in your life.

Describe the event. Say why it is important and how it changed you.

Exercise 2: Reading about the topic

- Read the passage “Breaking Ground to Be a Man”

Exercise 3: Understanding the text

- Based on your reading the text, write *T* for true or *F* for false for each statement.

Exercise 4: Responding to the text

- Based on your reading the passage, answer the questions (1-4).

Exercise 5 Free Writing

- Choose one of the topics. Write notes for ten minutes, expressing your thoughts and feelings.

Step 2: Brainstorming and Outlining

Exercise 1: Brainstorming Ideas

A. On a separate piece of paper, think back to the events you wrote and discussed in Exercise 1B. Choose one event and fill in the chart.

B. On a separate piece of paper, brainstorm a list of details related to the event you chose, making use of the following questions

- When did it happen? Who were you with?
- Where did it happen? What happened first? Next? Last?

Exercise 2: Identifying audience and purpose

A. Match column “Audience” with “column “Purpose”

B. On a separate piece of paper, answer the questions, writing about a possible audience for your essay

Exercise 3: Brainstorming vocabulary

A. Think about the event. Try to recall your actions and emotions. Add two or three words to each set.

B. Circle the words you would like to use from the sets above. Then, use these words in sentences. Use your dictionary for help.

Rhetorical Focus

- Read and study the information in the box about "Narrative Organization."

Exercise 4: Reading a student essay

- Read the short essay "An Embarrassing Incident" and answer the question "What was the writer's embarrassing incident"?

Exercise 5: Examining the student essay

- Based on your reading and understanding the essay, answer the questions A & B.

Exercise 6: Writing an outline

- Use the essay and fill in the spaces according to the ideas given in the previous essay to write an outline.

Exercise 7: Writing an outline

- Make a similar outline, using the following template.

Introduction (First Paragraph)	
Hook Interest the reader. (<u>Tip</u> : Suggest that the story will be scary, funny, or something else.)	
Background Information Add general background about <i>who</i> , <i>when</i> , and <i>where</i> .	
Thesis statement Introduce the main event.	

Body Paragraphs (Middle Paragraphs)	
Topic Sentence(s) Begin your story.	
Narrative Details Tell the story. (Tip: Use time order. Use the first body paragraph(s) to tell what happened first and what happened next.) (Tip: If one of your body paragraphs gets too long, divide it into two paragraphs.) In the last body paragraph, write about the last thing that happened. How did the story end? (Tip: Try an exploding moment. Write most of your sentences about the most important or exciting moment.)	
Conclusion (Last Paragraph)	
Summary: Retell the outcome of the main event and how it made you or others feel. Comment: Tell what you learned.	