

COMP

3



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Narration,
Description &
Reflection

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- 1 Understand how to read personal essays
- 2 Understand how to use anecdotes
- 3 Establish setting, describe people, and narrate action
- 4 Reflect on an experience
- 5 Use narration, description, and reflection to write a personal essay

Understand How to Read Personal Essays

- Consider the rhetorical situation
 - *Purpose - Explore meaningful aspects of life*
 - *Audience*
 - *Topic*
- Consider the writer's strategies
 - *Narration - Stories that include characters, dialogue, action, and settings*
 - *Description*
 - *Reflection*



Understand How to Use Anecdotes

- Anecdote - Brief story that enlivens one's writing while introducing a topic or illustrating an idea
- Forms of anecdotes
 - *Introducing a topic*
 - *Illustrating a process*
 - *Illustrating a problem*



Establish Setting, Describe People, and Narrate Action

- Essay outline has the following details
 - *Introduction - Setting and key characters*
 - *Conflict or situation*
 - *Closing*
- Details narrated in an essay help:
 - *Visualize places and people*
 - *Reconstruct an event*

Reflect on an Experience

- Meaning of an experience can be conveyed through:
 - *Actions*
 - *Description of its elements*
- Experiential significance can be better understood by reflections
- Cases
 - *Reflecting on an encounter*
 - *Reflecting on an illness*
 - *Reflecting on a cultural practice*

Use Narration, Description, and Reflection to Write a Personal Essay

- Planning
 - *Select a topic*
 - *Get the big picture*
 - *Probe the topic & reveal what you find*
 - *Get organized - Highlight key details, list main events in chronological order, and gather details related to experiences*
- Drafting
 - *Write the first rough draft*
 - *Test if draft explains the experience well*



Use Narration, Description, and Reflection to Write a Personal Essay

- Revising
 - *Review the draft*
 - *Get feedback*
 - *Improve the ideas, organization, and voice*
- Editing - Polish your writing by addressing:
 - *Words and sentences*
 - *Correctness and page design*
- Publish the writing

SUMMARY

- Personal narratives tell stories which the writer has lived and experienced
- While writing one's own story, writer must be prepared to re-experience the entire event
- Always be ready to learn something new about others and also about yourself

