Goals of the Lesson / Pre-Rating:

• Understand the genre of “flash” writing. In this case it will be flash narratives.
• To learn the structure of a personal narrative.
• To help you understand the purpose of writing a personal narrative.
• To practice narrative writing in preparation for our own literacy narratives (Essay #1) AND writing your scholarship letter or personal statement.
Part I: Introduction to Narrative

• Please take out a piece of paper and a pen or pencil. Please write your name, the date, and title at the top of the paper:

   “Lesson 1: Introduction to Narrative”

• We will quickly define narrative and complete two short writing activities.
Narrative Defined

• “narrare” from Latin “to tell”
• A narrative or story is a report of connected events (real or imagined).
• Can be organized in a number of themes or categories:
  • Non-Fiction—biography, journalism, historical event, etc.
  • Fiction—short story, novel, poems, songs.
• One of the four rhetorical modes of discourse (exposition, argumentation, and description)
• (Flash) Narrative: Starts in the action. No pre-story. Use description, dialogue, and actions to tell the story. Show, don’t tell. No less than 200 and no more than 500 words.
Part II: Write a Flash Narrative

• In groups of three, you will examine different narrative writing assignments. Once you have chosen a group of writing assignments, each individual will choose one and begin writing their narrative.

• Directions to Get Started: Groups of Three. Get a copy of the “Writing Assignments” packet and skim it. Then your group will choose one lettered group of prompts. You must tell your instructor once you have chosen your lettered group.
Group Task and Individual Assignment

1. Get a copy of the writing assignments, skim it with your group, and choose a group of assignments. Tell your instructor your choice.

2. Each individual student must choose one prompt within their lettered group.

3. Begin writing part one. All class members will have 10 minutes to write their narratives.

4. Must write the entire time.

Flash Narrative Part Two

1. Choose one more lettered group of prompts.
2. Begin writing part two. All class members will have 10 minutes to write their narratives.
3. Must write the entire time.
5. If time, groups choose one narrative.
6. Narratives are shared aloud with the rest of the class.
Conclusion of the Lesson and Post-Rating:

• On a scale of 1-4 please rate your ability in the following areas:
  • Understanding of what a narrative is.
  • The structure (format) of a personal narrative.
  • The purpose of writing a personal narrative.
  • When you are finished, turn in your work, put binders and materials away, and put the desks back in order.
• Thank You!