

Language Arts

This unit will focus on your writing abilities. By using the previously learned applications from the study of grammar, students will need to create a written journal of personal narratives. Personal narratives are your own thoughts, feelings, and ideas on a specific incident that happen to you. This incident involves a series of events that took place in a specific period of time. Remember to make your writing clear and effective by following these few steps:

- ❖ Make sure you write a “Good beginning sentence”
- ❖ that you mention supporting details throughout the writing
- ❖ Make sure your order of details is consistent

What is the purpose of writing a personal narrative?

The purpose of writing personal narratives is to inform or entertain, or a combination of these goals. When you write, you must also think about who your audience is. Are you writing to inform a friend, a classmate, a family member, or a variety of readers?

Beginning Sentence and Supporting Details

A good beginning sentence gives the reader an overall idea of what to expect in the narrative. It should immediately catch the interest of the reader. All of the supporting details in the paragraph should tell more about the beginning sentence.

In a personal narrative the supporting details are usually related actions or events. You should aim to select those details that vividly capture the experience you want to relate. Look back at the preceding paragraph.

- ❖ What are the main details?
- ❖ How do the details support the beginning sentence?

Guided Practice: Writing a Beginning Sentence

Use the list of words below to help you think about an incident that would be interesting to write about—perhaps an experience shared by others. Explore some ideas with a partner or other classmates. Then write a beginning sentence for each set of words.

School trip	wearing Hijab	Jumuah
A day in the park	learning Arabic	moving to a new city

Example:

The bus trip to the Botanical Gardens was an adventure in itself.

*These sentences will be used later to build your first set of narratives inshaAllah

Some other interesting writing topics:

Here's what a new student needs to know about my school.

Why weekends should be longer

A narrow escape from trouble

What I've broken or lost that belongs to someone else

My first friend

A visit to a relative's house

My chores

A dedicated teacher or coach

When I was lost

My idea of a fun weekend

A school field trip

I've done something no one else has done.

I'm principal for the day. Here's my schedule of events.

A typical lunch hour

If only I would have listened!

How could TV be better?

My favorite neighbor

My bedroom from top to bottom

A memorable bus ride

My best class ever

Finally, a good lecture

If I could be someone else, I would be . . .

The most fun I've had recently