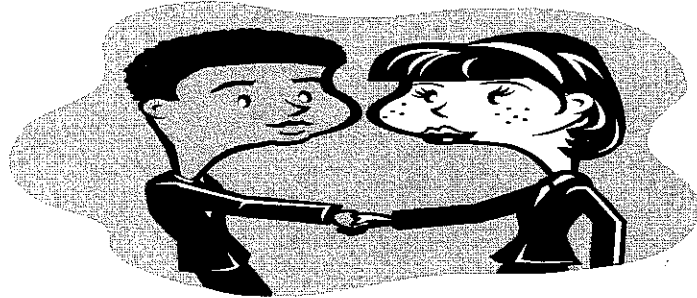


## Prompt for Personal Narrative

Look at the picture below.



**READ** the following statement:

“How do you make a good impression?”

**THINK** about a time when you were eager to make a good impression—to win the approval of coaches, teachers, or friends.

**WRITE** a personal narrative about a time you had to make a good impression and why it was important.

Be sure to —

- clearly write a thesis statement or controlling idea
- organize and develop your explanation effectively
- choose your words carefully
- in your resolution be sure to state why it was important to make this impression
- make sure your composition is no longer than ONE page
- use correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and sentences

## "Making a Good Impression"

**Exposition:** The exposition is the beginning paragraph in your personal narrative. This helps you set up your story for the reader by introducing the setting, tone, and characters.

Setting:

1. Where \_\_\_\_\_
2. When \_\_\_\_\_

**Characters:** Name the characters and describe their appearance, expressions, gestures, and attitude (tone) so your audience can really visualize what they look and act.

3. Character #1 Name (You): \_\_\_\_\_
4. Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Character #2 Name (Who you wanted to impress): \_\_\_\_\_
6. Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Character #3 Name \_\_\_\_\_
8. Description: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Rising Action Events:** Brainstorm the events that will build suspense for the reader by introducing internal and external conflict. Remember you can do this by writing about what you're thinking, feeling and seeing, so your events lead the reader to the climax.

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

11. \_\_\_\_\_

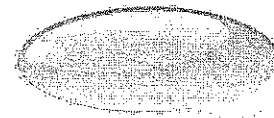
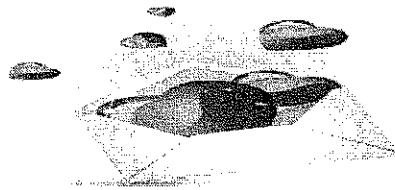
12. \_\_\_\_\_

Begin your 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph and by combining the exposition and rising action you should consider using the BaDa-Bing strategy.

Where are you?

How are you feeling?

What are you thinking?



Example: Standing in by bedroom closet, nervously biting my nails and wondering what I should wear for my first middle school dance. It's gotta be in style, but not look like I'm trying too hard to impress the new guy at school, named Johnny. But, of course, I am.



**Climax:** turning point and the intense part of their story will be. Be sure to show not tell. Explain the character's thoughts and feelings. This is where the mental and internal conflict is evident to the reader. Make a brainstorming list.

13. \_\_\_\_\_

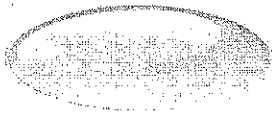
14. \_\_\_\_\_

15. \_\_\_\_\_

16. \_\_\_\_\_

17. \_\_\_\_\_

18. \_\_\_\_\_



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Thought-shots

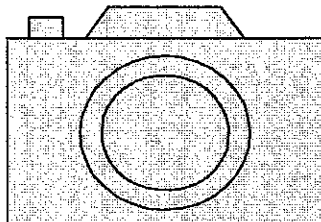


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feelings



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Snapshot

**Middle Paragraph:** Write your middle paragraph using the brainstorming ideas for the climax. Remember this is where all the action and emotions take place. The reader should be able to visualize the moment. You want to add thoughts, feelings, and explode the moment.

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**Falling Action:** This is where the reader finds out if you were successful in making a good impression. This can be done by letting the reader know what the other characters reactions are to toward you.

19. \_\_\_\_\_

20. \_\_\_\_\_

21. \_\_\_\_\_

22. \_\_\_\_\_

**Middle Paragraph:** Combine your falling action ideas into 2 or 3 sentences to add to you middle paragraph or start a new paragraph.

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**Resolutions:** Write about the outcome from this event and why it was important for you to make a good impression. Don't be silly!!

23. \_\_\_\_\_

24. \_\_\_\_\_

25. \_\_\_\_\_

26. \_\_\_\_\_

27. \_\_\_\_\_

**End Paragraph:** Write your end paragraph using your brainstorming list from the resolution. The most important part of the last paragraph is to answer the second part of the prompt.

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This is a great prewriting plan and now it's time for you to put it all together for a rough draft.







7/

## Transition Words

Words that can be used to show location:

above	behind	by	near	throughout
across	below	down	off	to the right
against	beneath	in back of	onto	under
along	beside	in front of	on top of	
among	between	inside	outside	
around	beyond	into	over	

Words that can be used to show time:

while	first	meanwhile	soon	then
after	second	today	later	next
at	third	tomorrow	afterward	as soon as
before	now	next week	about	when suddenly
during	until	yesterday	finally	

Word that can be used to compare two things:

likewise	also	while	in the same way
like	as	similarly	

Words that can be used to contrast two things:

but	still	although	on the other hand
however	yet	otherwise	even though

Words that can be used to emphasize a point:

again	truly	especially	for this reason
to repeat	in fact	to emphasize	

Words that can be used to conclude or summarize:

finally	as a result	to sum up	in conclusion
lastly	therefore	all in all	because

Words that can be used to add information:

again	another	for instance	for example
also	and	moreover	additionally
as well	besides	along with	other
next	finally	in addition	

Words that can be used to clarify:

that is	for instance	in other words
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# THE PROOF READING PAGE

This paper belongs to \_\_\_\_\_

Look for the Following	Text from the Draft	Sign your name
Vivid Verbs (list 5 examples)		
Prepositions (list 5 examples)		
Introductory Lead		
Explode the Moment/Snapshot		
Thought shot		
Combining Sentences (List one example of each type of sentence)	Simple –  Compound –  Complex –	
Takeaway Ending		
Life Lesson		
Spelling (read backwards)		
Grammar – punctuation and capitalization		

## Editing Checklist

### Capitalization

- Highlight in yellow the first letter of each sentence to make sure it is capitalized. If it is not capitalized, correct it.
- Highlight in yellow proper nouns that need capitalization. If something needs capitalization, cross it out and write the correction above the word.
- Look specifically for titles of books, movies, TV. shows, people, and places. Make sure they are capitalized correctly.

### Punctuation

- Check all sentences for comma errors:
  - o Coordinating Conjunctions: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so
  - o Subordinate conjunctions after, although, when, until, before, instead, since
- If you have a long sentence with a compound subject and verb, use a coordinating conjunction.
- If you have a sentence that starts with a subordinate conjunction or has one at the end, add a comma.
- Make sure your sentences have punctuation at the end.
- Make sure you put quotation marks around titles of ANYTHING.

### Spelling

- Look for the list of commonly misspelled words. Highlight them in green.
  - Their, they're, or there
  - Your and you're
  - Its and it's
  - A lot
  - Where and were
  - Until
  - To, too, two
  - Here, hear
- Look for slang words and abbreviations. Highlight them in orange.
  - Kinda
  - Cause / cuz
  - Gonna
  - Wanna
  - U
  - b/c
  - &
- Make sure you use the words correctly in the context they are used. Cross out the words and correct them if needed.



# McKinney ISD Writing Product Rubric

## PERSONAL NARRATIVE

*Score your paper*

	<b>Organization/Coherence</b> <i>(Clarity and movement)</i>	<b>Idea Development/Content</b> <i>(Examples and Commentary)</i>	<b>Style</b> <i>(Personality and Voice)</i>	<b>Conventions</b> <i>(Mechanics, Usage, and Sentence Formation)</i>
<b>1</b>  <b>Huh?</b>  (0 – 59 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The prompt may not be addressed.</li> <li>• Most details that are included are random, detracting from the focus of the personal experience, and the narrative does not include a beginning, middle, and end.</li> <li>• You don't use transitions correctly, or you are repetitive and wordy, making your organization difficult to follow.</li> <li>• The illogical structure is inappropriate to the task.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your narrative is weak because of the lack of development and/or a reliance on a non-realistic experience.</li> <li>• The details do not establish an understanding of why the experience is meaningful.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your response has little or no personality.</li> <li>• Your choice of words is vague, limiting the quality of the narrative.</li> <li>• The importance of the experience is not conveyed due to general word choice.</li> <li>• Sentences are simplistic, awkward, and uncontrolled, significantly limiting the effectiveness of the narrative.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your many spelling mistakes distract the reader.</li> <li>• Capitalization errors are present throughout.</li> <li>• A severe lack of command of grammar and mechanics is evident.</li> <li>• Most of your sentences are fragments or run-ons.</li> <li>• The essay contains a lack of punctuation, causing extreme disruption of thought.</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>  <b>Ok...</b>  (60–69 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Details that are not important to the personal experience detract from the focus, and the narrative may not include a beginning, middle, or end.</li> <li>• Your weak transitions make it difficult to understand the link between the experience and its meaning.</li> <li>• The structure shows a limited ability to use literary devices to convey a sense of importance of the experience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your narrative is superficial because of the formulaic response and/or lack of details.</li> <li>• The details may have some elements of a realistic situation but reflect only a partial understanding of why the experience is meaningful.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your personality is evident in some places.</li> <li>• Your choice of words is ok but could be improved because your words are general and/or repetitive, limiting of the quality of the narrative.</li> <li>• The importance of the experience is not adequately conveyed due to general word choice.</li> <li>• Sentences lack variety and are awkward or only somewhat controlled, weakening the narrative.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You have many spelling mistakes.</li> <li>• Capitalization errors are present.</li> <li>• A lack of command of grammar and mechanics is evident.</li> <li>• Sentences may contain multiple run-ons and fragments.</li> <li>• Many punctuation errors exist, creating disruptions.</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>  <b>Nice.</b>  (70–95 points)  -3 = 70-79 3 = 80-89 +3 = 90-95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The focus on a specific personal experience that contains a beginning, middle, and end creates a coherent narrative with few shifts.</li> <li>• Your use of transitions reinforces how your experience was meaningful.</li> <li>• The use of literary devices helps to convey the importance of the experience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your narrative is somewhat thought-provoking because of the specific details that address an understanding of how your personal experience is meaningful.</li> <li>• The details are both realistic and reasonable, addressing changes or insights that resulted from the personal experience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your personality is evident most of the time, but your response still sounds a bit generic.</li> <li>• Your word choice is clear but doesn't always contribute to quality and clarity.</li> <li>• A somewhat insightful understanding of the experience is conveyed through generally effective word choice.</li> <li>• Most sentences are varied and controlled, adding to the overall effectiveness of the narrative.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You have a few minor errors in spelling that do not distract the reader.</li> <li>• Capitalization is perfect.</li> <li>• An adequate command of grammar and mechanics is evident.</li> <li>• There may be some construction mistakes such as a run-on and/or fragment.</li> <li>• You use a variety of punctuation correctly, but there may some minor errors.</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>  <b>Wow!!!</b>  (96–100 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The focus on a specific personal experience that contains a beginning, middle, and end strengthens a unified and coherent narrative.</li> <li>• Your superb use of transitions reinforces how your experience was meaningful.</li> <li>• The skillful use of literary devices conveys the importance and meaning of the experience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your narrative is thought-provoking because of the specific, well-chosen details that reveal a truly meaningful personal experience.</li> <li>• The details are both realistic and plausible, revealing changes or insights that resulted from the experience.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your response sounds authentic and original.</li> <li>• Your word choice is higher level, vivid, and expressive.</li> <li>• An insightful understanding of the experience is conveyed through purposeful word choice.</li> <li>• All sentences are purposeful, varied, and well-controlled, enhancing the effectiveness of the narrative.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You have no spelling mistakes.</li> <li>• Capitalization is perfect.</li> <li>• Grammar and mechanics are flawless.</li> <li>• You consistently write sentences correctly, avoiding run-ons and fragments.</li> <li>• A wide variety of punctuation is used correctly.</li> </ul>
Comments:				



# McKinney ISD Writing Rubric ALL-PURPOSE PRODUCT RUBRIC

*Score your paper*

	Organization/Coherence <i>(Clarity and movement)</i>	Idea Development/ Content <i>(Examples and Commentary)</i>	Style <i>(Personality and Voice)</i>	Conventions <i>(Mechanics, Usage, and Sentence Formation)</i>
<b>1</b>  <b>Huh?</b>  (0 - 59 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The thesis is illogical and/or does not relate to the prompt.</li> <li>You use transitions incorrectly or not at all, making your organization difficult to follow.</li> <li>Paragraphs are not related to the thesis, making the entire essay unfocused.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your examples and commentary are vague, insufficient, and/or missing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your response has little or no personality.</li> <li>Your choice of words is vague and limited, making your essay difficult to understand.</li> <li>Sentences are simplistic, awkward, and uncontrolled, significantly limiting the effectiveness of the essay.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your many spelling mistakes distract the reader.</li> <li>Capitalization errors are present throughout.</li> <li>A severe lack of command of grammar and mechanics is evident.</li> <li>Most of your sentences are fragments or run-ons.</li> <li>The essay contains a lack of punctuation, causing extreme disruption of thought.</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>  <b>Ok...</b>  (60-69 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your thesis is weak.</li> <li>Your lack of meaningful transitions makes your organization difficult to follow.</li> <li>Most paragraphs are generally related to the thesis; however irrelevant information interferes with the focus.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You use superficial examples and lack relevant commentary.</li> <li>Your formulaic response lacks original examples and commentary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your personality is evident in some places.</li> <li>Your choice of words is ok but could be improved because your words are general and/or repetitive.</li> <li>Sentences are awkward or only somewhat controlled, weakening the essay.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You have many spelling mistakes.</li> <li>Capitalization errors are present.</li> <li>A lack of command of grammar and mechanics is evident.</li> <li>Most of the sentences are simple with little variety; may contain multiple run-ons and fragments.</li> <li>Many punctuation errors exist, creating disruptions.</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>  <b>Nice.</b>  (70-95 points)  -3 = 70-79 3 = 80-89 +3 = 90-95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The thesis is specific, relating to the prompt.</li> <li>You use mostly meaningful transitions to help the reader follow the organization of your ideas.</li> <li>Most paragraphs are focused and support the thesis, however there may be minor shifts in that focus.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You use specific, well-chosen examples and relevant commentary.</li> <li>You show some thoughtfulness in your incorporation of examples and commentary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your personality is evident most of the time, but your response still sounds a bit generic.</li> <li>Your word choice is specific and helps contribute to the quality and clarity of the essay.</li> <li>Most sentences are varied and controlled, adding to the overall effectiveness of the essay.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You have a few minor errors in spelling that do not distract the reader.</li> <li>Capitalization is perfect.</li> <li>An adequate command of grammar and mechanics is evident.</li> <li>You attempt varied sentence structures, but there may be some construction mistakes such as a run-on and/or fragment.</li> <li>You use a variety of punctuation correctly, but there may be some minor errors.</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>  <b>Wow!!!</b>  (96-100 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The thesis is strong and specific, relating to the prompt.</li> <li>Your use of meaningful transitions makes your train of thought very easy to follow.</li> <li>All paragraphs are completely focused, strongly supporting the thesis and creating a unified and coherent essay.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your response is thought-provoking because of the specific, well-chosen examples and thorough commentary.</li> <li>You skillfully incorporate examples and commentary to convey your unique point of view.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your response sounds authentic and original.</li> <li>Your word choice is higher level and is clear, vivid, and expressive.</li> <li>All sentences are purposeful, varied, and well-controlled, enhancing the effectiveness of the essay.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You have no spelling mistakes.</li> <li>Capitalization is perfect.</li> <li>Grammar and mechanics are flawless.</li> <li>You consistently write sentences correctly, avoiding run-ons and fragments.</li> <li>A wide variety of punctuation is used correctly.</li> </ul>

Comments:

