

Personal Narrative Brainstorming Survey

One of the best ways to come up with a topic for your personal narrative is to make a list of possible topics and slowly let the best one rise to the top. In order to create a list of important events, people, accomplishments, and activities in your life, fill out the survey below. It may seem like a lot, but it will help you narrow your topic.

If you were writing your autobiography today, what would be five events or things that would have to be included? It will be easiest to think over your life chronologically.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Choose three of the above events and write three details about each one.

Event #1

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Event #2

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Event #3

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Ask three friends or family members to pick three adjectives or personality traits that describe you.

Friend or Family Member #1

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Friend or Family Member #3

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Friend or Family Member #2

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List three things that you have accomplished in your life. They don't have to be things for which you were formally acknowledged. They can be things from everyday life. They should be things you are proud of.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List three things that you have done in your life that you are NOT proud of.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List two things that you know a lot about.

- 1.
- 2.

What are your favorite extracurricular activities (sports, clubs, etc.)?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List three people that you respect or admire and briefly say why. They can be real or fictional, dead or alive.

- 1.

Why?

- 2.

Why?

- 3.

Why?

What is your favorite book?

Why?

Who is your favorite musician?

Why?

List two times in your life when you failed miserably and two times when you were a fantastic success.

Failed	Succeeded
1.	1.
2.	2.

Ask your parents to describe three events that in your life that they will always remember.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List two teachers that have had a positive influence in you.

- 1.
- 2.

List two teachers that have had a negative influence in you.

- 1.
- 2.

Briefly describe one positive and one negative classroom experience.

Positive:

Negative:

List four of your favorite things and four of your least favorite things. These can be anything!

Favorites

Least Favorites

1.

1.

2.

2.

3.

3.

4.

4.