QUALITIES of a PERSONAL NARRATIVE  
Notes

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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| **QUALITIES** | **BAD NARRATIVE** | **GOOD NARRATIVE** |
| **Purpose/Theme** | No sense of events significance to writer’s life |  |
| **Focus** | A bed-to-bed narrative that covers all events in a day, trip… |  |
| **Voice** | Too many “we,” not enough “I,” no one for the reader to “know” |  |
| **Plot** | No conflict or climax, no details |  |
| **Setting** | Reader can’t tell where events are happening |  |
| **Characterization** | Reader doesn’t know who the characters are |  |
| **Lead** | Begins with a paragraph of who-what-when-where-why info |  |
| **Transitions** | No flow or pacing, jumps from one event to next |  |
| **Resolution** | No closure or stops abruptly |  |
| **Title** | Title is a label or has not meaning to story |  |
| **Sentences** | Simple sentences throughout, no variation |  |
| **Word Choice** | Weak or elementary word choice |  |
| **Other** |  |  |