**To Create a Personal Narrative**

Engage your audience with your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or lead

Create a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that sets a mood

Use your unique \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to draw your reader in

Focus on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ event

Choose your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ carefully

Choose your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wisely

Use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to develop a character

Use \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to move the plot along

What is your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / the so what?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (metaphor, simile, personification) is your friend

Avoid \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, don’t tell

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**CHARACTERISTICS OF A PERSONAL NARRATIVE**

A personal narrative is **one** song in your life – NOT the whole soundtrack.

COMMON MISTAKES to AVOID

1. Too much information
2. Alarm clock story
3. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - Use “I”**

Ex. Told from the perspective of the young man on the date

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Ex. *I lifted her head; she looked at me and said, “Hold me, darling, just a little while*.”

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Ex. A car crash that ended in a tragedy

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (one small event / one moment in time)**

Ex. Interesting Lead: *Oh where, oh where, can my baby be? The Lord took her away from me.*

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** 
   1. Vivid descriptions
   2. Powerful imagery

Ex. *The screaming tires, the busting glass, the painful scream that I heard last.*

Ex. *When I woke up, the rain was falling down, there were people standing all around. Something warm flowing through my eyes.*

Ex*. Now she’s gone even though I hold her tight.*

1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_? – What did you learn? How did the event change you?**

Ex. I lost my love, my love that night.

Ex. She’s gone to heaven so I’ve got to be good, so I can see my baby when I leave this world.