

## English Language Arts

### English I

#### Unit 3: The True Narrative Essay

<p><b>Essential Understandings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A true narrative is a true story with plot, action, characters and setting.</li> <li>▪ In every story a series of carefully selected incidents is related. One or more characters are involved in the action, and the events take place in a definite locale at a definite time.</li> <li>▪ The true narrative has elements common to any essay (theme, style, personality, subject matter).</li> <li>▪ The true narrative has the additional elements of plot, character, action and setting.</li> <li>▪ The true narrative presents its thesis through illustration and example, the actual story, rather than argument or exposition.</li> <li>▪ True narrative writing may include autobiography, biography, or memoir.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Essential Questions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Why may an author choose to write a true narrative essay?</li> <li>▪ What is the difference among autobiography, biography, and memoir?</li> <li>▪ What is point of view, and how may point of view influence a narrative essay?</li> <li>▪ What is the difference between <i>showing</i> vs. <i>telling</i> in writing?</li> <li>▪ What features make the narrative essay unique?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Essential Knowledge</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In some cases, an author will communicate his/her point (thesis) more powerfully through illustration and experience (narration), than through exposition or persuasion.</li> <li>▪ The point of view identifies <i>who</i> is telling the story.</li> <li>▪ Autobiography is the author's story; biography is the story of an individual told by an author. Memoir captures or highlights meaningful moments in one's past.</li> <li>▪ An anecdote is a brief, often humorous account (narrative) which illustrates a general truth, some aspect of human nature, or something typical of an individual or situation.</li> <li>▪ A true narrative essay should have elements of plot, action, setting, and character.</li> <li>▪ True narrative essays often implicate their theses (themes) by <i>showing</i> (events and experiences) rather than by <i>telling</i> (exposition or analysis).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Vocabulary</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Terms:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ point of view: first-person narrator, limited narrator, omniscient narrator</li> <li>○ plot: character, conflict, setting, dialogue, theme, thesis</li> <li>○ narrator, narration, narrative, true narrative</li> <li>○ autobiography, biography, anecdote, episode, memoir</li> <li>○ show, don't tell</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Essential Skills</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Read a collection of true narrative essays to recognize their common features.</li> <li>▪ Write a true narrative essay of 1-3 pages incorporating elements of plot, character, setting and theme.</li> <li>▪ Identify the point of view in a collection of narrative essays. Students maintain a consistent point of view when writing true narrative essays.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Related Maine Learning Results</b></p>	<p><u>English Language Arts</u></p> <p>A. Reading</p> <p>A2.Literary Texts</p> <p>Students read text, within a grade appropriate span of text complexity, and present analyses of fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry, using excerpts from the text to defend their assertions.</p> <p>b. Analyze the difference between first-person and third-person narration and the effect of point of view on a reader's interpretation of a text.</p> <p>h. Evaluate the effective use of a genre of literature related to its intended purpose and audience.</p> <p>B. Writing</p> <p>B1.Interconnected Elements</p> <p>Students use a writing process to develop an appropriate genre, exhibiting an explicit organizational structure, perspective, and style to communicate with target audiences for specific purposes.</p> <p>a. Locate, summarize, and synthesize information from primary and secondary sources, as necessary.</p> <p>b. Apply aspects of various genres for rhetorical effect, strong diction, and distinctive voice.</p> <p>c. Revise drafts to improve synthesis of information from sources, ensuring that the organizational structure, perspective, and style are effective for the targeted audience and purpose.</p> <p>d. d. Edit for correct grammar, usage, and mechanics.</p> <p>e. Create legible final drafts.</p> <p>B2.Narrative</p> <p>Students embed narrative writing in a written text when appropriate to the audience and purpose.</p> <p>a. Use diction, syntax, imagery, and tone to create a distinctive voice.</p> <p>b. Organize ideas in a logical sequence with effective transitions.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Related Maine Learning Results</b></p>	<p>D. Language  D1.Grammar and Usage  Students apply rhetorical skills when reading, writing, and speaking through their understanding of Standard American English.  b. Use handbooks, style guides or other writing sources to confirm accuracy of Standard American English.  D2.Mechanics  Students demonstrate the use of the structures and conventions of Standard American English in their communication.  a. Use appropriate punctuation, spelling and sentence and paragraph structure to suit purpose, situation, and audience.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sample Lessons And Activities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ show, don't tell essay</li> <li>▪ querencia essay</li> <li>▪ nonfiction essay: read and respond (true narrative essays)</li> <li>▪ ...I remember... (brainstorming session)</li> <li>▪ shared reading/ peer editing</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sample Classroom Assessment Methods</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Write a true narrative essay in one of the following modes: autobiography, biography, or memoir.</li> <li>▪ Write a series of five anecdotes from personal experience which illustrates an aspect of human nature.</li> <li>▪ Write an essay that <i>shows</i> the reader the thesis (narration), rather than <i>tells</i> them (exposition ).</li> <li>▪ Read three essays from a collection, and evaluate in each the narrative method used by the author to illustrate the thesis.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sample Resources</b></p>	<p><u>Resources:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A Book of Nonfiction: Perspectives in Literature (HB)</li> <li>▪ A+ software: Writing the Narrative Essay</li> </ul>