

Biographical Narrative Sample Outline

I. Introduction

A. Engaging beginning- Use a famous quote, ask a question, or make a statement.

B. Background information—

- i. How did you first meet this person? What was your first memory of this person?
- ii. Physical description of your subject (include sensory details).

C. Thesis—(1 sentence) State or hint as to why your subject is significant to you.

Example: My mom is significant to me because she has always taught me to have confidence in myself.

II. Body 1—(Opening anecdote)— *Example: Tell the story of how my mom helped me have confidence when I was a new student at a new school*

- A. Describe the people, places, and sequence of events using sensory details.
- B. Include your thoughts and feelings as the experience unfolds.
- C. Keep a natural pace in the action, reflecting changes in time or mood.

III. Body 2—(Second anecdote)— *Example: Tell the story of how my mom believed that I could make the softball team.*

- A. Describe the people, places, and sequence of events using sensory details.
- B. Include your thoughts and feelings as the experience unfolds.
- C. Keep a natural pace in the action, reflecting changes in time or mood.

IV. Body 3—(Third anecdote)— *Example: My mom had confidence to go back to college even though it made her nervous. She was the example.*

- A. Describe the people, places, and sequence of events using sensory details.
- B. Include your thoughts and feelings as the experience unfolds.
- C. Keep a natural pace in the action, reflecting changes in time or mood.

v. Conclusion—

- A. Reflect on what the incidents and the person mean to you. Restate the thesis differently.
- B. End with a closing statement.