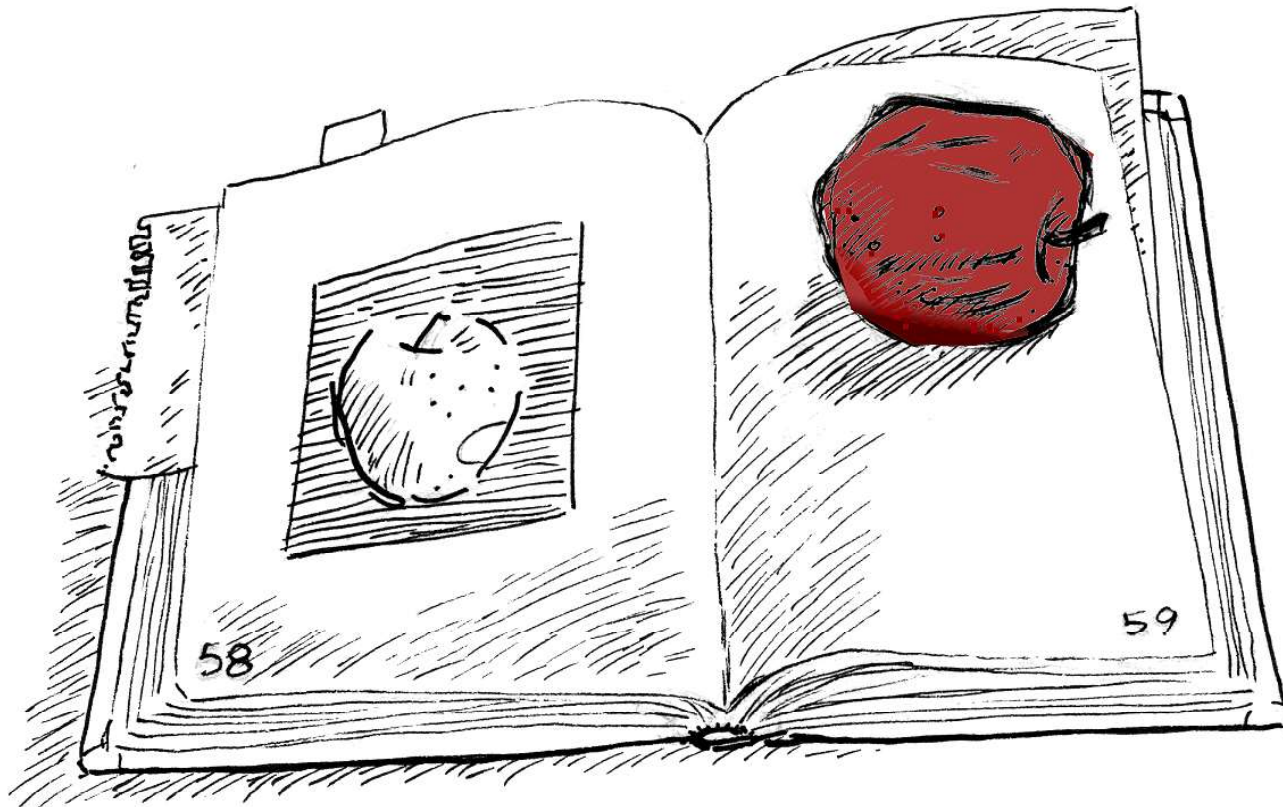


Narration Mode • Conflict



Narration Pattern

In simplest, basic terms, Narrative writing tells a story.

- However, in these essays, the narrative writing shows personal reflections or explores the author's values told as a story.
- A narrative essay relates specific personal events. The author remembers
 - > his or her past, *or*
 - > a memorable person from his or her past *or*
 - > event from the past *or*
 - > even observations on the present, in comparison to the past.
- Most often told in first person, with a casual style and tone.
Occasional slang or colloquial phrases are okay, but avoid using clichés.
- An autobiography is considered a Narrative form.

Narration Pattern

Five Narrative Essays Elements for Successful Projects

1. Make a point. A strong declaration of a topic is necessary.

View the topic sentence as a declaration of your intentions:

2. The topic sentence acts as an signal to reader which indicates what kind of narration will be used:

- > an event, recurring activity *or*
- > a personal experience/memory, *or*
- > a general observation about life

Narration Pattern

3. The opening paragraph contains a topic “point” or declaration of theme for the reader. This is essential. An informal thesis needs to be expressed.

4. Include dialogue; follow proper punctuation rules.

5. The paper leads the reader to reflect on the overall human experience.

To achieve this it is best to provide a lesson that was gained from the event.

Connection between reader and writer is vital in this type of informal writing.

Narration Pattern

Principles for narrative writing:

- Involve readers in the story. It is much more interesting to actually recreate the incident for readers, slowly revealing details, rather than to simply tell the basic plot in the opening sentences.
- Remember that although the main component of a narrative is the story, carefully select which details are crucial to
 - > *support*
 - > *explain*, and
 - > *enhance* the story.
- Although narratives are generally written in first person, second or third person can work also as an interesting experiment.

Narration Pattern

Important point:

For narrative essays do not begin with the pronoun *I*.

Fight the impulse as much as you can!

- This immediately distances the reader from the event.
In other words, the situation or memory is more important than the writer.
- Think in terms of a résumé. These types of documents restrict the I-voice.

As a result, fictional literary devices are expected:

- strong sense of a plot, with detailed settings and specific characters
- a climatic point or decisive turning point in the plot
- closure— provide a lesson which was learned from the experience
- show increasing **conflicts**

Types of Conflict

All stories deal with **conflicts** and secondary-conflicts in one fashion or another:

- human vs nature
- human vs human
- human vs supernatural (*or* gods/God/ Fate)
- human vs self
- human vs technology (*or* progress)
- *Be able to identify these as they appear in your readings.*

Types of Conflict

All stories deal with **conflicts** and secondary-conflicts in one fashion or another:

- human vs nature
(wilderness / disease / animals)
- human vs human / society
(political / economic / religious / racial differences)
- human vs supernatural (*or* gods/God/ Fate)
(Jonah / Oedipus vs Fate)
- human vs self
(mental illness / morality conflicts / physical endurance)
- human vs technology (*or* progress)
(computers / industrialism / corporations)
- *Be able to identify these as they appear in your readings.*

Organization

Organization of the essay can follow numerous methods:

- **chronological:** provide a clear sequence of events from beginning to end; historical events leave little room for experimentation, however, if discussing a personal memory, a more creative approach can be used. Relate the scenes in a backwards fashion or through fragmented segments
- **description:** explaining the nature of something by describing it in detail; keep items in a recognizable format. When describing a person, move from head to foot. When describing a building or room, keep an identifiable path so readers can recreate the scene in their head.
- **complexity:** display the event with increasing emphasis on what is important to the story's main message. In these cases, the event is emphasized out of a typical chronological telling.