**Narrative Essay Outline**

**The Introduction:**

1. Begin with an “attention grabber” such as asking the reader a question, telling a brief story or joke, or making a comparison that captures your reader’s interest.

2. Follow your attention grabber with 2-3 sentences that lead up to your thesis statement.

3. State your thesis- this should clearly present the experience or event that you will describe and its significance. Do not begin telling the details of your story just yet.

**Body Paragraphs- Your story:**

1. Begin each paragraph with a topic sentence. Begin this sentence with a transition that shows the order that the events occurred (First, Later, In the end, Second, Third, etc.) and the details of your story.
2. This is where you tell your story. Just like any story you read, you need to make sure to have a clear beginning, middle, and an end. Make sure to describe people and places involved with vivid details.

General guidelines:

* + A rule familiar to a lot of writers is to give one idea per paragraph.  
    - A story must follow some logical pattern. Chronological is the easiest one.  
    - With every new paragraph underline the significance of experience and the universal truth the story brings to the audience.
  + Use descriptive language. This is made possible by using figurative language (similes, metaphors, personification), sensory words (use your 5 senses to place your reader where you are) and vivid words (smiled brightly, explained softly).

**The Conclusion:**

The Conclusion is just as important as the Introduction; it is the last impression your reader will get of your story.

1. Begin by re-stating the importance of your thesis. Be careful not to use the same wording.
2. Summarize the basic events of your story.
3. Reflect on the larger meaning or importance of the experience described. What was the point of your story? Explain the new understanding and why/how this experience or event has a permanent effect on you.

Narrative Essay Outline

Introduction:

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Thesis Statement:

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First Body Paragraph:

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Describe:

A.

B.

C.

Second Body Paragraph:

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Describe:

A.

B.

C.

Third Body Paragraph:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Describe:

A.

B.

C.

Conclusion: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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