



Personal Experience Narrative

Grade 4 Sample

Snowed

Summarizing Framework

This is a story about Danny and me.

The experience was playing in the snow.

The experience concluded when the boys were so cold they went inside.

What worked:

- **Organization:** There is a sense of story with a beginning, middle, and end.
- **Entertaining Beginning:** There is a good action beginning statement.

Feedback with Prescriptive Feedback:

CHOOSE a Focus Skill: One skill that will make the biggest impact

For this student, genre and organization needs to be the focus.

Genre and Author's Purpose: This story was difficult to summarize because it is a classic list of actions rather than a fully elaborated main event. What is the main event from the list of actions in the middle of your story? The story does not begin as close to the main event as possible because the main event is unclear.

- Section 1 Lesson 1: Introducing Graphic Organizers - Summarizing Framework
- Section 1 Lesson 8: Annotating Narrative Stories - the organizational structure and features of narrative

- Section 1 Lesson 10: Givens and Variables - practice planning focused narrative stories

Elaborative Detail: This student needs modeled lessons in description of setting and feelings. Elaborative detail is a critical foundational skill that builds the essential parts of the narrative story.

- Section 3 Lesson 3: General or Specific? The awareness level for elaborative detail.
- Section 3 Lesson 5: Creating Elaborative Segments (modeling is crucial)

Entertaining Beginnings:

- Section 2 Lesson 1: Starting Off on the Right Foot
- Section 2 Lesson 2: Analyze the Beginning
- Section 2 Lesson 3: Revising Story Beginnings

Main Event: What is the main event? Student needs to establish a single, significant event. Is it the snowball fight? Is it going sledding? Is it building an igloo? Once that is established then add a balanced mix of **action, description, thoughts/feeling, dialogue, and sound.**

- Section 5 Lesson 1: Comparing Summaries and Fully Elaborated Main Events
- Section 5 Lesson 2: Main Event: apply the productive questioning techniques

Personal Experience

Most kids enjoy playing outside. Write a story about a day you played outside that was really fun.

It had snowed all night long! I woke up in the morning and the best thing of all happened. A snow day! I got dressed and had some hot oatmeal with maple syrup on it. I got on my (ski pants, coat, hat, scarf, gloves, and boots) I went outside and walked to my neighbor Danny's house. We've been friends since kindergarten. He wasn't even dressed yet, so I sat on the couch and waited, like an hour, for him. I watched Nickelodean and saw a couple of funny old shows.

We finally went outside. His mother made us shovel the sidewalk which wasn't much fun, but then Mrs. Doherty next door paid us each five bucks to shovel her walk. That was big money! After that we had a snowball fight. I won after I shoved some snow down Danny's coat. He got mad, but he got over it. We took an old box from his garage and made a sled out of it, and went down the hill in his backyard. We did that about a hundred times. Finally the box got all wet and it wouldn't go anymore. Next we made an igloo. It was cool! Everyone in the neighborhood came to see it.

And then, and then...
grocery list of action

After that we made snow angels. We were freezing by then, so we went inside and had hot chocolate and cookies. We went back outside and made snowmen. We dressed them up real funny. Cool!

abrupt ending

Finally we were wet and freezing cold, so we went in. That was the end of our fun snowday!