

















## On Your Own



Choose one of these prompts. Follow the steps in this lesson to do your own narrative writing.

<p><b>A SHORT SCENE</b></p> <p>1. Write a short scene between two people in a specific time and place.</p> <p>Decide on the problem the two people face. Write down what they say to each other. Use dialogue and stage directions in parentheses to show what happens and how people feel.</p> <p>Here is an example:</p> <p>GROUCHO (to Chico): What do you mean?</p> <p>CHICO: I mean nothing. (Chico starts to walk away.)</p>	<p><b>A TALL TALE</b></p> <p>2. A tall tale is a folktale that uses exaggerated characters and action to tell a funny story. Often the tale tells a made-up story about how something in the United States came to be.</p> <p>Choose one of these topics. Write a tall tale that explains in a silly way how it was made. Invent crazy characters and give them humorous dialogue.</p> <p>The Great Lakes      The Smoky Mountains Lakes</p> <p>The Grand Canyon      The Mississippi Delta</p>
<p><b>A SHORT STORY</b></p> <p>3. Use this story starter to write a short story. Pace the action in your story to hold your reader's interest.</p> <p>Trish and Marvin were told never to climb the ladder to Grandmother's attic, but that just made it more tempting. . . .</p>	<p><b>PERSONAL NARRATIVE</b></p> <p>4. Sometimes a holiday is a special time, but sometimes your anticipation of the holiday is better than the real thing.</p> <p>Write a personal narrative about a time when a holiday didn't quite work out as you expected. Start your narrative by introducing the situation, characters, and setting. Use dialogue and descriptions to move the story along. End with a conclusion that ties the story together.</p>