

# Personal Narrative and Digital Storytelling

## ASSIGNMENT 1

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### THE REQUIREMENTS

You will be required to write a personal narrative for this project. This narrative should be about yourself—a story about you. Our first unit has focused on stories about beginnings, so this narrative will, at least partially, focus on just that. That is the first component. The second component is creating a digital format of your narrative through digital tools like computers, cameras, audio recorders, and digital media software. You are more than welcome to use your phone, considering there are multiple free apps that can be used to record and manipulate audio and video. The second component allows you to “show” us instead of “tell” us your story.

See the Digital Narrative Rubric for a better understanding of how you’ll be graded on this project. It will help guide you through the pieces of your narrative. Though there are two parts to the project, the writing and the digital component, you’ll receive an overall grade using the rubric attached.

### PART 1: THE STORY

Choosing a story and executing it well could be a challenge. Try talking about what you know and you’ll be successful in your first narrative. When writing your essay (“script”), start by developing a synopsis that you can play out in your head and jot down your thoughts, discuss with your peers, Ms. Mudge, or even family members so that we can give you feedback. Formulating the story is a process, and every story has a beginning, including your own.

When writing a personal narrative, there are some characteristics that I highly consider using:

1. First person point-of-view
  2. Dialogue
  3. Action
  4. Focus/purpose
  5. Imagery and details
  6. So what?
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### THINGS TO AVOID

- Too much information!
  - The “Alarm Clock” Story — we don’t need every detail of the day. Only the important details need to be included.
  - Ask yourself:
    - Is it readable? Does my story make sense? Does it flow? Is it engaging?
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### PART 2: THE PROJECT

How you choose to create your project is entirely up to you. You have full creative control. You are allowed to tinker, build, and experiment. Try not to make your digital narrative too long. I’d shoot for five minutes or less. You may make a movie, podcast, etc., or if you have another idea, then run it by me.

