



PERSONAL NARRATIVES



# Great Writing Starts with Golden Ideas

Before any writer digs into their piece, they need to select an idea that will interest their potential readers. For example, if you are being asked to write a personal narrative, you'll first have to think back on the experiences you've had that really stand out to you. Which moments were most interesting?

The process below should help you come up with a **GOLDEN IDEA!**

## Step 1

List five moments or events from your life that could be potential topics:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**Stuck? Consider:**

- A favorite family holiday or trip.
- A time when you experienced a big surprise.
- A time you felt strong emotions (nervous, excited, unsure, curious) about an event.
- A time when you felt joyful.
- A time when you did something challenging.
- Meeting someone special for the first time.

## Step 2

Choose one idea from the list you generated in Step One and circle it. Now, create an idea map by putting the topic in the middle and adding interesting details, reflections, and memories about the topic. This will help you bring your story to life!

**Suggestions:** What did you see, feel, hear, taste, and smell? What emotions do you recall?



