**Personal Narrative Story Skeleton**

1. **Anchor event**

In the box below, write 3 sentences to describe the event that you chose for your personal narrative. As you learn about setting, characters, and plot, you will be reflecting on how this applies to your “anchor event.”

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1. **Theme**

Write the theme of your story below. In other words, what lesson or message do you want to communicate to your readers?

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1. **Setting**

Using sensory details and vivid, detailed explanation, describe the setting of your story in the box below. This should be at least 4 sentences.

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1. **Characters**

In the rows below, list the characters who are involved in your anchor event (include yourself). Write down both physical appearance as well as what they are like on the inside. You want to keep it simple, so you should not have more than 4 or 5 characters. Less is more!

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| **Character Name:** | **Physical appearance and personality:** |
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1. **Plot Structure**

In the boxes below, map out the course of your story in a few sentences. This will help you next class when we start drafting our stories.

Part 1: Hook/Exposition - Introducing the setting and characters

*How is your story going to start? How are you going to grab your reader’s attention? What do you need to describe in the beginning to set up your story?*

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Part 2: Rising Action - setting up the major conflict of the story

*How are you going to create suspense in your story by introducing the main conflict of your story and building up to it?*

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Part 3: Climax

*What is the most exciting part of your story going to look like? How are you going to illustrate the main moment of the conflict that your entire story revolves around?*

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Part 4: Resolution

*How does your story wrap up and end? Is everything resolved or does the conflict continue on? Does it have a happy or sad ending?*

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