

PSSA Writing: Narrative Essay

STRENGTHS

Organization – logical telling of story or structured format

Relatable - can everyone relate to the story even if they haven't experienced it

Details – description reinforces the meaning of the essay

Analogy – relate the topic to the world at large in order to convey the belief

Repetition – reinforces and/or identifies main ideas

Conclusion – the narrative builds an idea or topic throughout but stresses a clear belief at the end

Weaknesses

Sentence structure – Does my sentence structure reinforce my ideas or detract from the writing because I use fragments and run-ons?

Does my narrative allow the reader to empathize with the story or does the piece come off as pushy, arrogant, needy, etc.?

Vocabulary – Is the vocabulary appropriate for the audience? Will the audience understand my references?

Tone – Do I maintain my tone or do I flip flop between lightheartedness and seriousness?

If something is intentionally contradictory, is the effect clear?

Is the essay a true narrative or does it contain narrative pieces?

General < > Individual
Does the story begin w/ the individual & move to a general statement or vice versa?

Contrasting examples:
Do I use contrasting examples to convey my point or do I stress the example too much, which shifts the focus?