

Language & Literacy Narrative Brainstorms Worksheet

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Instructions: Please respond to the questions that follow with as much detail and description that you can. The more you put into reflecting now on the complexities of your language and literacy development, the better off you'll be in completing our major assignment for our first phase of this course. Take as much space as you need.

Type to enter text

When it comes to your experiences with language (speaking and listening) and literacy (reading and writing), what specific moments in your life can you recall that are particularly vivid or that emerge as being significant to you? Yes, it could be an example from your earliest memories of *learning* to speak, read, and write (in school or elsewhere), but it doesn't have to be. It could be a memorable encounter—a moment of tension, confusion, or triumph. It could be about experiences developing additional dialects/languages and advanced literacies (i.e., learning to speak/write in different peer groups, at school, at work, with family, online, in different locations across the nation or world, etc. Please select 3 moments to describe. Then, explain why each is interesting or significant.

1. When it comes to my experience with reading, I always think back to when I was a little girl with a bookshelf with books falling out. And me and my grandmother read together.

2. My 4th grade teacher Ms. Bailey would help me build my confidence to read. I would sit with her during my lunch and she would tell me ways on how to fill my time with reading out loud. She would tell me to read in the mirror. And to start off with small groups and to work my way into reading with big groups.

My 5th-grade teacher Mr. Rund changed my academic life. He is one of the reasons that I'm where I am today. He made it run to learn. He was the first teacher that could get me into reading and writing.

What specific materials or artifacts (i.e., objects, writing, learning materials, pictures, video recordings, etc.) from your past can you locate/recall and that in some way represent a meaningful moment in your reading/writing development? This can be something like a journal or book, but also anything at all (e.g., a toy, piece of furniture, cereal box, art supplies, etc.) What memories and feelings can you extract from these examples you've gathered/recalled? Explain.

I feel there are a few specific materials or artifacts from my past that would have to be to kill a mockingbird and because this was the first book that I read because I liked it. And I believe that the reason that I loved this book so much is because of the way that the book starts and ends.

For better or worse, who and what impacted how, when, and why you developed your languages and literacies? Who in your family, at school, among your peer group, or in your community played a part? How did your particular situation or experience shape your literacy? That is, what sorts of issues, experiences, organizations, or life circumstances played a part? What kinds of languages and literacies did you gain from those people and your particular situation? How? Why? Explain.

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In what ways do you see your language, reading, and writing capabilities as having social consequences or impacting your life circumstances—that is, what advantages did/do you have and what disadvantages did/do you face as a result of your language and literacy learning?

(I really don't understand this question)

I feel like the ways I use language, reading, and writing capabilities can be social consequences or impact my life circumstances in many ways. Because I believe there's a standard that society has. And if you meet that standard that advantage.

How might your experience with language and literacy connect to larger social realities (e.g., of your life, family, generation, gender, race, culture, nation, geographic location, historical moment, etc.)?

My experience with language and literacy connect to larger social realities because it's a way to connect with other people. Whether it's people you don't know or if it's people you do know.