Literacy Narrative Examples
Textbook

• Get a *Norton’s* textbook
• Turn to “Proficiency”  Pg 36

• As I read, jot down anything that
  • Catches your interest
  • Gives you ideas for your own narrative
  • Details about organization / description / key characters
On your own

- Read Ch 7, pg 42-51
- Take notes that you might need as you work at home to write the narrative
- You cannot take the textbook home
- Electronic link to textbook – see class website
1. With ONE partner
   • Read “Right or Wrong Identity”  Pg 27
   • Complete the worksheet while you read

2. On your own
   • Read “Always Living in Spanish: Recovering the Familiar, through Language”  Pg 33
   • Complete the worksheet while you read
Strategies for Writing
Literacy Narrative
1. Take out the list of ideas you created yesterday.
2. Brainstorm MORE ideas for your *own* literacy narrative

- An early memory about reading or writing
- Encountering a new kind of literacy (& the people involved)
- Working with or helping others with literacy issues
- Encountering a new communication technology
- Situation where your literacy skills were tested
- A book, work of literature, or other communication that changed your outlook
- Think about the examples we have read; do they give you any ideas?
- Think outside of school.
- Have you ever written anything using social media that got you in trouble?
- Do you write diaries or journals?
- Do you like to read blogs?
Thinking About Other Topics

• There aren’t too many rules about what you should and shouldn’t write about in a literacy narrative.

As long as it’s school appropriate!
Elaborate on ONE of the ideas you wrote about.

For five minutes, write whatever comes to your mind about that idea. Don’t stop writing. If you can’t think of something to write, simply write “I’m stuck,” until you can think of something.

When you’re done, re-read what you have written. Highlight or circle anything that you particularly like, that sounds like it would be good to elaborate more on for the literacy narrative paper.
Let’s elaborate –
By asking yourself some questions…

• You can think of something you want to write.

• You can think through an idea.

• Is it really the idea you want to go with?

• What are you going to say about it?
Questions to Consider…

• When did the event take place?
• Write a brief summary of your paper topic:
  • How did you feel about this event at the time?
  • How do you feel about the event now?
  • Why is this topic important to you?
• Who is your audience for the paper?
• Are there any potential issues or struggles that you may encounter?
When you write…

• Start with a plan for what you want to write
  • List major and minor ideas
  • Or simply list ideas
  • Or create a formal outline

• Think about the order of the story.
  • Do you want to start at the beginning?
  • Do a flashback at the beginning and come back to it at the end?

• Think about what details you want to include
  • How you want to describe them?
Keep writing... move on to the analysis...

- What are the implications of the event you described?
- What did you learn from the event?
- What will you want your audience to learn from it?
Lastly…

• Add the introduction and conclusion into your plan.

• Think about what will most grab your audience’s attention.

• What background information will your reader need to know in order to understand your story?

• Finally, consider what final words you want to leave the reader with.
Is this an idea/experience you are excited to write about?

**YES**
Continue writing your rough draft

**NO**
Explore another topic
• *Shawshank Redemption* “Opera Scene”
• “Rebel Music” – p. 624
• Questions 1-4 p. 627-7

• Malcolm X [bio](#) (some offensive language)
• “Literacy Behind Bars” – p. 640
• Questions 1-4 p. 643-4