

Narrative Anchor Assignment

The Most Important Lesson

Name _____

Use your notebook entries about lessons you've learned as a jumping off point for this writing. Read through them and decide which one you believe will make the BEST story.

Once you pick the "lesson" you want to expand into your narrative, you need to work through this prewriting task sheet. This will ensure you are meeting the requirements for this assignment.

Task 1: Decide on a Theme

The theme of your story will be the lesson you (or another character) learn as a result of what happens. Please write your theme as one complete sentence in the space below:

Task 2: Identify a Tone

What tone do you want your story to convey? Circle one or more words from the list below. Add your own term(s) if you cannot find one(s) appropriate for your story.

Happy

Sarcastic

Sincere

Funny

Angry

Sympathetic

Lighthearted

Bitter

Eerie

Serious

Resentful

Scary

Sad

Respectful

Other: _____

Optimistic

Playful

Other: _____

Pessimistic

Inspirational

Other: _____

Keep this tone in mind the entire time you are planning and drafting your story. Your word choice and the details you include should all reflect this tone. Take a minute to think about the elements of your story that are going to make the reader feel this tone. List them below (at least 3).

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Task 3: Create Characters

Who is going to be involved in this story? List at least 2 main characters below and describe how you want to characterize them.

Name		
Physical Description		
Personality Description		
Other Important Traits relationship to other characters, role in the story, etc.		

Task 4: Create Dialogue

Your story must have some extensive dialogue in it. Decide now on the conversations you will include in your plot (these should be on your plot map in Task 5 as well).

**Note: It is possible you will have one long conversation OR several shorter ones. This just depends on your story.*

1. Conversation between _____ (list all characters involved)

What is this conversation going to be about?

2. Conversation between _____ (list all characters involved)

What is this conversation going to be about?

3. Conversation between _____ (list all characters involved)

What is this conversation going to be about?

Task 5: Plot your story

Your story will need all elements of a narrative plot: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution. You Create a plot map below that details these parts of your story. Remember, you only have 3 typed pages (double-spaced) to tell your story, so think carefully about what you want to include. Include at least 10 incidents on your map.

Task 6: See Mrs. Spaman

Once you have finished your pre-writing tasks, see Mrs. Spaman for her approval to move forward with drafting.

Spaman's Initials: _____