

Narrative Prompts

Provide the following narrative prompts to help students get started.

Prompts for writing narration

1. Eavesdrop in a public place and write a story from the dialogue you hear.
2. Imagine an argument between two people and write their exchange.
3. Observe a person in a public space and write the person's thoughts or life story.
4. Write a short story that can fit into the space of a postcard.
5. Tell the story of your dreams.
6. Create a character who is completely different from you and then write a dialogue between you and this imaginary character.
7. Imagine that you are wrongly accused of a crime and write about how you would feel.
8. Imagine you have spent twenty years in prison and now you are on the outside.
9. Choose a historical figure, research the stories of that person and then write an episode from his/her life.
10. Interview a relative and write a story about their life.
11. Predict a different ending to a famous story.
12. Watch a television program and conjecture how the next episode will follow.
13. Observe someone at school/work and write a story about their life.
14. Create a conflict between a parent and a child that begins with "You don't understand me".
15. Speculate on what would happen if you found a cougar in your bedroom.
16. Write a letter to an imaginary boyfriend/girlfriend.
17. If your pet could talk, what story would they tell?
18. Rewrite a fairy tale or myth with contemporary characters, places, and experiences.
19. Write a story about a person on a talk show.
20. Tell the story that you want the world to know.

