

Structuring a Narrative

1. What makes a narrative?

Stories about events in people's lives fascinate us. They are the focus of many television programs and articles in newspapers and magazines. You may have an interesting story to tell about your own life. Writing your own personal narrative may help you understand better why certain events in your life are so important to you.

2. What does a narrative look like?

A narrative has three parts:

- The **introduction** begins the story and tells what it is about. The introduction tells us who is involved, what happened and it also must grab the reader's attention.
- The **body** is the central part of the story, made up of one to three (or more) paragraphs. Each paragraph builds on and explains the event.
- The **conclusion** finishes the story by telling the reader what happened after the event and how the event was meaningful to the author.

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