

A Personal Narrative

A personal narrative gives a first-person account of a true experience. Use this student's writing as a model when you write a personal narrative of your own.

Grand Slam!

A good **beginning** catches the reader's interest.

"Smack!" It looks like it's going all the way past the pale silver fence, 135 yards away from the plate.

"Oh man," I said, as the ball plopped down on the ground just before the fence. "Nick almost had a homer!"

Then I heard coach John say, "Shepard, you're up!" Nervous and dripping with sweat, I got up to the plate. There were two outs and three men on: Ron, Nick, and Mike.

Dialogue makes a personal narrative come alive.

"Strike one!" called the ump. "Ball one! . . . Ball two!" Then again, "Strike two!"

The pressure was on as my teammates cheered, "Let's go, Tim. Let's go!" The pitch was there. It was a big, fat meat ball. I swung as hard as I could.

"Crack!" I hit the microscopic ball. As I ran to first, I saw my first base coach signaling me to go to second. As I touched second, I saw the ball glide over the fence. Then I heard a bang. "Beep! Boop! Boop! Beep! Beep! Boop! Beep! Boop!" I had hit a car, but I was still happy. It was a grand slam. I slowed down to a trot.

Details help the reader follow the narrative.

As I touched the dirty home plate, my team crowded around me. They were screaming and cheering. I tried desperately to run from them, but they kept chasing me around the field. I gave up the chase and they dog-piled me. I was so happy that my cheeks felt bright red.

Then I noticed something. My grand slam had just won us, the Vipers, the championship game! We had won 9 to 8. WE WERE THE CHAMPS!

A good **ending** ties the narrative together.

Meet the Author

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What he'd like to be when she grows up: a lawyer