**Organizing My Personal Narrative**

**1. Timeline/Storyboard**. As you plan your story, it’s helpful to first think of all the possible events you *could* include. Use the boxes below to make a storyboard outline for your story, showing a chronological timeline of how events unfolded.

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| 1 |  | 2 |
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| 3 |  | 4 |
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| 7 |  | 8 |
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| 9 |  | 10 |
|  |  |  |
| 11 |  | 12 |

**2. Conflict**. Next, identify the most crucial parts of your story by analyzing its most important conflict.

a) What message do you want your reader to understand from this story? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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b) Given that, what is the most important conflict or tension in your story? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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c) When does this conflict begin? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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d) What resolves the conflict? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**3. Organization.** Now it’s time to decide how to organize your story so that you draw most attention to your crucial conflict and its resolution. Describe what organizational decisions you will make to help your readers appreciate your message. (Will you use flashbacks or foreshadowing? What parts will you focus on? What parts will you cut out?)

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**4. Story Arc.** Now you are ready to decide the order in which you will tell your story. Use the plot diagram below to outline the basic structure of your story plan.

 Climax

Rising Action

Resolution

Denouement

Inciting Event

Exposition