

British Literature Narrative Writing Prompt

Task:

In “B. Wordsworth” by V.S. Naipaul, an elderly man becomes the narrator’s friend at a time in his life when the boy really needed him, impacting his life and his feelings. The old man dies, leaving a void in his young friend’s life. In a multi-paragraph autobiographical narrative, write about a time in your life when you had to say goodbye to someone or something that was very important in your life at the time. It may be a person, whom you lost through distance, passage of time, or death, or it may be a place or an event, for example a house, a school, a community, or even an activity that brought you fulfillment. Include the events leading up to the loss, and reflect on your feelings at the time, and in the present.

Procedure:

Before writing, organize your thoughts by completing a prewriting activity. You may use a web, a graphic organizer, cluster, list, or map.

1. In the first paragraph, establish the setting and focus the reader on the incident.
2. In the body paragraphs:
 - a) Use narrative techniques to develop the incident. For example: vivid images, descriptive language, sensory details, etc.
 - b) Use dialogue.
3. Your essay needs to contain a personal reflection on the significance of the incident.
4. Your concluding paragraph should provide a feeling of closure
5. Use transitional language appropriate for narrative writing
6. Re-read your paper to see if it makes sense. Revise and edit your paper, combine simple sentences, check for punctuation, paragraphing, margins and content,
7. Essay should be typed using MLA format: double- spaced, with your name, date and class clearly visible in the left hand corner of your paper. Font should be Times New Roman 12.