

Getting Started:

*Choosing a story to share can be hard.
Here are some prompts to help you get started.*

Prompts:

- A. Write about a time you learned to do something new. It can be something basic like learning to make a grilled cheese sandwich or something huge like learning to speak English. What was the experience like for you? What did you learn about yourself while learning the new skill?
- B. Write about a time when you suddenly understood something you had been struggling with for a long time.
- C. Write about a time when you changed your judgment of someone or something. How did this experience change you?
- D. Write about an experience that at first seemed terrible but then, somehow, got better. Maybe you even came to like it.
- E. Write about a time when you realized how much you cared about someone in your life.
- F. Write about a time when you tried something that you had been very scared to do. How did it turn out? What did you learn?
- G. Write about challenging situation that you were in. How did you handle it? How did the experience change you?

Reminders:

- Make sure this is a story YOU want to be telling.
- If you are telling a story that involves someone from school, please make sure to get their permission before telling it in front of others.
- Only share what you feel comfortable sharing.

Please use this space to respond to one of the prompts.

You're welcome to expand to more pages as needed.

Prompt: _____ *Which letter prompt are you responding to?*

Summary: *Briefly describe what the story is about.*

Beginning:

Set up the context: *Who were you when this story took place?*

(Age? Location? Attitude? Feelings? Include whatever you feel your audience needs to know.)

Explain your stakes: *What was at stake for you at the time? What did you care about?*

Middle:

Space to brainstorm some lively details:

How did you feel?

Do you remember any smells?

Tastes?

Sounds?

Other details?

End:

Transformation: *Did anything change for you because of this experience? Did you come to understand something better? Or worse? Did you learn something new? Or reinforce old beliefs?*

Reminder: For the purposes of this assignment, we're encouraging you to be on the lookout for transformation.

However, it is fine if you answer to each of these transformation questions is no. Not all stories involve a transformation.

Not all stories "button up nicely."