

DIRECTIONS: YOUR NEXT PROJECT IS GOING TO BE TO WRITE AN ORIGINAL STORY. USE THE FOLLOWING CHART TO HELP PRE-WRITE YOUR PERSONAL NARRATIVE. TAKE YOUR TIME, READ THE PROMPTS AND FILL IN AS MUCH AS YOU CAN FOR EACH ANSWER. (THE MORE TIME AND ENERGY YOU PUT INTO THE PRE-WRITING, THE EASIER IT WILL BE TO WRITE YOUR STORY... TRUST ME!)

NARRATIVE ELEMENT	EXPLANATION (QUESTION)	ANSWERS RELATED TO YOUR OWN PERSONAL NARRATIVE
<p>Protagonist</p>	<p><i>Who is your story about? Create your character and describe him/her both physically and personally.</i></p>	<p>My main character is AJ. He's a high school student who wants to go to college. He's an athlete and a soloist in the school choir. He grew up in the church. He was raised by his grandparents. He is very spiritual. He's a "good-boy." He doesn't lie, cheat or steal, ever. He believes in the bible and follows everything his church teaches. He's not that smart, but he's not dumb. He's a C-student. He's a 17-year-old senior. He's 6'1" tall, 230 lbs. He has dark skin, dreadlocks down to his shoulders, a scar across his left eye from a fight he broke up three years ago.</p>
<p>Antagonist</p>	<p><i>Who is the opposition to your main character? Describe him/her as you did the protagonist.</i></p>	<p>Chris is AJ's rival. He is very similar to AJ. They grew up in the same neighborhood, and they are involved in a lot of the same things, but they are very different. Chris hates AJ, but AJ doesn't hate anyone. Chris is an inch shorter and a few pounds lighter than AJ. He is dark-skinned also with a short, curly bush. He is very competitive and will do anything to win. He plays on AJ's football team, but he's not as good as AJ. He sings in AJ's choir, but he's never had a solo.</p>

NARRATIVE ELEMENT	EXPLANATION (QUESTION)	ANSWERS RELATED TO YOUR OWN PERSONAL NARRATIVE
Supporting Characters	<i>Who else will be in your story? Name and describe these characters as well.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derek... another boy on their football team who uses steroids and helps get some for Chris. • Rev. Johnson... AJ's pastor who he goes to whenever his heart is heavy or he has questions on his mind for which he cant find an answer. • Coach Washington... the football coach at Pensacola HS. • Denise... AJ's girlfriend • Mr. and Mrs. Sampson... AJ's parents.
Setting	<i>When will your story take place? Where will your story take place? What is the atmosphere of your story?</i>	<p>My story takes place in Pensacola, Florida. It's a town known for sports, mainly football. It's a very country, rural area. Not much goes on except sports. Everybody knows everybody. It's hot all year-round. The coldest it ever gets is about 65 degrees. It hasn't snowed in almost 20 years.</p> <p>The story takes place over the course throughout the month of December, 2009. The story goes through AJ's house, Chris's house and Pensacola High School.</p>

NARRATIVE ELEMENT	EXPLANATION (QUESTION)	ANSWERS RELATED TO YOUR OWN PERSONAL NARRATIVE
Sequence of Events	<i>What will the major events in your story be? Please try to say them in chronological order.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AJ will be named as his school's MVP for football season. • AJ is asked to sing a solo for his school's Christmas pageant. • Chris will start a rumor that AJ uses steroids. • Florida State will offer a scholarship to Chris instead of AJ, after hearing the rumors of illegal drug usage. • Trying to plant steroids in AJ's locker, Chris will be caught and arrested for having illegal drugs. • Because of his reputation as a "good-boy," AJ will be called on to testify as to whether or not he's ever known Chris to use illegal drugs. • AJ testifies and tells the truth, without snitching on Chris for trying to set him up. This allows Christ to keep his scholarship to Florida State. • AJ does such a good job at the Christmas pageant that he receives a scholarship from his church to any school of his choice... and he chooses Florida State.
Climax	<i>What big scene will your story lead up to? Why will it be interesting to readers?</i>	AJ is called upon to testify against Chris for steroid usage, which could cause Chris to lose his scholarship to a school that AJ wanted to attend, a school that chose Chris over him.
Conflict	<i>What will be the major problem(s) faced by the characters in your story? Describe them.</i>	AJ has to decide between doing what's right doing what's best for himself. He has to decide if it's more important to beat Chris or to please God. AJ has to figure out how to remain competitive without being consumed by competition.

NARRATIVE ELEMENT	EXPLANATION (QUESTION)	ANSWERS RELATED TO YOUR OWN PERSONAL NARRATIVE
Resolution	<i>How will you resolve the conflicts in your story?</i>	AJ decided to tell the truth when he testifies, even if it means helping the person who tried to get him in trouble. AJ doesn't get the scholarship to play football at Florida State, which is what he wanted, but he does end up with a music scholarship from his church, which can be used at any school of his choice, and he chooses Florida State.
Title	<i>What would be a suitable and attention-grabbing title for your story?</i>	<i>Whatever It Takes to Win...</i> I chose my title because it tells exactly what my story is about (the theme of the narrative) without giving away anything about what's actually going on in the story.

NEXT, THINK OF A PICTURE THAT YOU COULD DRAW TO TURN YOUR IDEA INTO A VISION. OR, IF YOU ARE WORKING ON THIS PROJECT ELECTRONICALLY, THINK OF SOME PICTURES THAT YOU COULD SEARCH FOR, THEN CUT-AND-PASTE THEM INTO YOUR DOCUMENT BELOW HERE.

FINALLY, WRITE THE ROUGH DRAFT OF YOUR ORIGINAL PERSONAL NARRATIVE. IF YOU ARE WORKING ELECTRONICALLY, YOU CAN BEGIN TYPING RIGHT BELOW HERE. MAKE SURE YOU CLICK "INSERT" THEN "PAGE BREAK" BEFORE YOU BEGIN...

Whatever It Takes to Win

by: *W. D. Simpson*

On the morning of December 4th, 2009, I hopped out of the bed so early that I had taken a shower, brushed my teeth, washed my face, gotten dressed and eaten breakfast, all before my alarm clock sounded. It was Friday, the last day of school for the week, and the day when all my big football games were played. Tonight, we were playing against Miami Christian High School, the top-ranked team in the state. They were ranked number one, but Pensacola High School, my school, was always feared by everyone. They were no different. They didn't want to play us. I liked school, but I couldn't wait until 3:30, so I could start getting ready for the game.

I had been training for college football ever since I was five-years-old. Everything I ate, drank, did, didn't do, etc... all these things were geared towards my goal of one day being a superstar NCAA football player with the Florida State Seminoles. I was just over six-feet-tall, 230 pounds. I had even grown my dreadlocks to look like Trent Richardson, who was the all-star running back at my school before I got there. I wasn't as good as he was, but I was good enough to be compared to him on a regular basis, which was good enough for me.

(to be continued)