

STORYTELLING FROM YOUR PERSONAL TIME LINE¹

Time: 30 min.
Age: 5th grade and up

WHAT IS IT?

After doing personal time line, students will put their time line into a narrative format so that it makes sense to others.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

In order to understand what motivates you for public action, it is important to consider what events made you the way you are.

WHEN IS THIS USEFUL? At the early stages of PA.

MATERIALS: None

CORE CONCEPTS: Self-interests

SKILLS: Sharing stories, writing, being imaginative and creative

ACTIVITIES / STEPS:

- A. Write the (3-4) events on paper and circle them
- B. Around the circles, write everything they would want to describe about those events.
- C. Put events into outline. What are the most important events that make them who they are?
- D. Write narrative story describing important events (3-5 paragraphs)
- E. Edit (individual or peer)
- F. Final draft

EVALUATION:

1. Was it difficult to describe these events on paper? Describe what was hard about it?
2. Did the process of writing lead you to think of new items that weren't on your original brainstorm list?
3. In what ways do you think of the events you wrote about differently as a result of this assignment? Do you understand yourself in a different way?
4. In what ways do you have a "public life"? Does it surprise you that you have interacted in public as much or as little as you have?

¹ Adapted from Melissa Bass, *Making the Rules*