

# PERSONAL NARRATIVE ASSIGNMENT SHEET

A personal narrative tells a true story about someone's life. In this assignment, you will interview someone in your family and write a personal narrative based on the shared details of that person's life.

You will begin the assignment by choosing an older relative to interview, either over the phone or in person. You will then work collaboratively in class to develop interview questions to ask that person.

Once your interview is complete, you will write a personal narrative using the information you discovered. You will include basic personal information about your family member, as well as stories about his or her experiences. You will write not only about your family member's life, but also about how that person's life has been different from your life so far.

This is the format for your final personal narrative:

**1st paragraph** Explain who you are, who you interviewed (full name), and why you chose that person.

**2nd paragraph** Write a short biography about the person you interviewed using information you gathered from the "Basic Questions" section of the ORAL HISTORY QUESTIONS handout.

**3rd paragraph** Write what you learned about your ancestral history using the "Family History Questions" section of the ORAL HISTORY QUESTIONS handout.

**4th paragraph** Share what you learned about how life has changed in the person's lifetime using the "Lifetime Changes" section of the ORAL HISTORY QUESTIONS handout.

**Additional paragraphs** Write at least one paragraph, or more, about the responses to your personal questions and anything else that came up during the interview. If you learned something about your parents, you can share it here as well.

**Last paragraph** Write a reflective paragraph about the process of the interview and what you learned about your interviewee and his or her life.