

Written Narrative Task: (Administered to Grades 2nd-12th grade)

“What Happened One Day?”

Time: 5 minutes of planning after instructions; 20 minutes of writing after planning

Materials: Students are provided a set of the instructions below in writing which includes the 7-point outline (bullets below) as well as lined paper.

General Instructions: You should read the prompt (what is in bold) to the students. Please do not modify the instructions.

At this time, I would like you to write a story. Please write a story about something funny, sad, or scary that happened to you and a friend. You get to decide what to write about. It can be anything that was funny, sad, or scary. If you can't think of something that really happened, you can make it up. It doesn't have to be a true story. You can use your imagination, if you want. It's up to you. The title of your story is “What Happened One Day.”

The outline will help you organize your thoughts and write a good story. In your story, be sure to do the following:

- 1. Tell where the events took place (setting).**
- 2. Tell who the main people are (characters).**
- 3. Tell everything that happened in the story (plot).**
- 4. Tell about the problems that came up (problems).**
- 5. Explain what the characters tried to do (attempts).**
- 6. Explain how things turned out (outcome).**
- 7. Tell how everyone felt during the events (thoughts).**

You will have 5 minutes to plan your story. Try to include each of the points in your story. As you write, try to write a full paragraph of your own ideas. You will have 20 minutes to complete your writing after you plan. I have given you paper to use in writing your story. Please complete the top portion.

As you do this work, please use your best writing style with complete sentences and correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation. If you are aren't sure how to spell a word, make your best guess. Try to write neatly, using a pen or pencil. If you make a mistake, just cross it out or use an eraser. Keep going until I ask you to stop writing.

Do you have any questions? Remember, the title of your story is “What Happened One Day.” You may start planning.

Wait 5 minutes

Now you will write your story. You may use your planning sheet. You have 20 minutes to complete your story. You may begin.

Wait 20 minutes

Gather up the writings and place them back in the envelope. Please make sure they have completed the top portion of the writing paper.

Name: _____

Planning Sheet for ‘What Happened One Day’

In your story, be sure to do the following:

1. Tell where the events took place (setting).

2. Tell who the main people are (characters).

3. Tell everything that happened in the story (plot).

4. Tell about the problems that came up (problems).

5. Explain what the characters tried to do (attempts).

6. Explain how things turned out (outcome).

7. Tell how everyone felt during the events (thoughts).

