

Writing Journal Topic for the Week of 9/9 – 9/13

For our next unit in writing class, we are going to write memoirs.

Memoir means *memory* and is a literary nonfiction genre (genre means the type of book – Mrs. Boland’s favorite genre is mystery!). More specifically, memoir is a collection of memories that an individual writes about. These memories can be moments or events, both public or private, that took place in the author's life.

To plan for your memoir, please write a paragraph about your most meaningful memories.

Please use this graphic organizer to plan out your paragraph.

Topic Sentence	As I think about writing a personal memoir, many important memories surface in my mind.
Supporting Detail (Key Star Idea)	The first memory that comes to mind is a backpacking trip I took with the YMCA in 5 th grade.
Elaboration	My friends and I backpacked on foot in Big Basin from Skyline to Sea without our parents!
Supporting Detail (Key Star Idea)	Another important memory of mine is a public speaking class I took in college.
Elaboration	Before taking this class, I was terrified to speak in front of other people.
Concluding Sentence	These two memories are important to me because they were a turning point in my life – after each experience, I changed just a little bit for the better.

As I think about writing a personal memoir, many important memories surface in my mind. The first memory that comes to mind is a backpacking trip I took with the YMCA in 5th grade. My friends and I backpacked on foot in Big Basin from Skyline to Sea without our parents! Another important memory of mine is a public speaking class I took in college. Before taking this class, I was terrified to speak in front of other people. These two memories are important to me because they were a turning point in my life – after each experience, I changed just a little bit for the better.