

Writing Narrative Arguments

Writing the Beginning

Name: _____ Date: _____

Experiment with strategies for capturing the reader's interest. Use the examples below for inspiration. Then develop a beginning that introduces the main character, describes the setting, and sets up the conflict.

1. Start in the middle of the action.

Flush with determination, I stepped up to the podium. I had a strong speech. I had a strong message. I was ready to fight for equal rights. So how did I know it was all doomed?

2. Use interesting dialogue.

"There goes Drama Jess again. Making something out of nothing." Girls with an opinion get that a lot in high school.

3. Pose a fascinating question.

What does justice mean to you?

4. Set up the conflict.

I'm a sports fanatic. I'm also a girl. I thought by now my gender wouldn't be an issue, but last school year showed it still is.