THE BIOGRAPHICAL NARRATIVE

STANDARD 2.0 WRITING APPLICATIONS (Genres and Their Characteristics): Students combine the rhetorical strategies of narration, exposition, persuasion, and description to produce texts of at least 1,500 words each. Student writing demonstrates a command of standard American English and the research, organizational, and drafting strategies outlined in Writing Standard 1.0.

2.1 Write biographical or autobiographical narratives or short stories:

   a. Relate a sequence of events and communicate the significance of the events to the audience.
   b. Locate scenes and incidents in specific places.
   c. Describe with concrete sensory details the sights, sounds, and smells of a scene and the specific actions, movements, gestures, and feelings of the characters; use interior monologue to depict the characters’ feelings.
   d. Pace the presentation of actions to accommodate changes in time and mood.
   e. Make effective use of descriptions of appearance, images, shifting perspectives, and sensory details.

OBJECTIVE: The student produces a narrative account (fictional or biographical) that:

- Engages the reader by establishing a context, creating a point of view, and otherwise developing reading interest;
- Establishes a situation, plot, point of view, setting, and context (and for autobiography, the significance of events);
- Creates an organizing structure;
- Includes sensory details and concrete language to develop plot and character;
- Excludes extraneous details and inconsistencies;
- Develops complex characters;
- Uses a range of appropriate strategies, such as dialogue and tension or suspense;
- Provides a sense of closure to the writing.