Assignment:
- Write a 2-3 page Personal Narrative (autobiography) paper about a significant event or person in your life. The paper must fulfill at least 2 whole pages; any papers less than 2 pages long will not be read.
- Using the time line you developed, choose your event or person carefully with your readers in mind. This paper is public prose that will be shared with your classmates and me; therefore, make your choice with two factors in mind:
  - Your narrative should be one you are comfortable presenting to others
  - Your narrative should have a general significance that will lead readers to reflect on either the similarities and/or differences between their life experiences and the one you choose to describe.

Possible Topics:
- A time when you made a difficult choice
- An occasion when something did not turn out the way you thought it would
- Meeting a person you admire, or despise, or envy, or disapprove of
- The most important day in your life
- An event that changed the rest of your life

*Avoid writing about high school graduation and “the winning touch down” as those are very boring to read.

Helpful hints:
- Present your experience dramatically (for example, use dialogue when appropriate or use active verbs and vivid adjectives and adverbs) so that your readers can SEE for themselves what it was like for you to have this experience, know this person, etc.
- Choose the details you include carefully; pick only the ones that relate to your event, occasion, person, etc. Make sure there is enough of the “I” perspective in your paper—if you write a paper in which three-fourths is a biography about your parent or a “significant other,” I will not accept it.
- Provide the necessary background so that your readers know who people are and where the event is occurring, but don’t pad the narrative with unnecessary, unrelated or repeated “stuff.”
- Choose words and phrases that you feel convey the significance of this narrative to your readers.

Format:
- Use word processing (i.e. Microsoft Word), double spacing, 12-point font, Times or Times New Roman, and standard 1” margins.
- Provide a title page with the following information:

  Title of Paper
  Your Name
  Course and section numbers
  Date the paper is due
  Paper #1 Personal Narrative

NOTE: Late paper coupons will not be accepted for this assignment. Papers that have not been peer edited will have points deducted from the final grade. All peer edited drafts must be turned in with the final draft.