

## **Summer ELA Project: Summer Moment Personal Narrative Essay for students entering 4th grade**

Dear parents / guardians,

This Summer ELA Project will be a fun way for your child to express their creative writing skills using descriptive words to engage the reader. It also allows your child to showcase what they've learned from 3rd grade and apply it to this assignment.

### **Instructions**

Your child will be required to write a 3 paragraph essay about a fun summer moment they've experienced this summer. Attached to this assignment is a graphic organizer so that your child can organize their thoughts before they write their final essay. I've also attached a writing template that your child will hand in along with their graphic organizer. I've also included a checklist and rubric. Please make sure your child reviews the checklist and rubric so that they are aware of how they will be graded on this assignment. Below are the requirements for this project.

### **Requirements for the ELA Summer Project**

- A cover page and title with a photo? **Your Title will be: My Summer Moment.**  
( The picture must include yourself during a summer moment.) (Example: Yourself at an amusement park, ballpark, community park, vacation, etc.) ( You may also have other people in your picture. You may also use more than one photo. You may use a piece of construction or computer paper as your cover page.)
- Your assignment must be handwritten, not typed!! Make sure to use my writing template I provided for you. I already included a heading for you on the template. The writing template consists of 3 pages which is more than enough room for your child to write on. Their essay must be 3 paragraphs long.
- **\*\* Make sure to indent at the beginning of each new paragraph!! Skip 1 line after each paragraph and make sure to indent at the start of each paragraph!! \*\***
- **Paragraph 1** - ( Must be 5 - 6 sentences long) ( Include the Setting - the time, date, and place in your story ) (Make sure to start your 1st paragraph with a hook sentence!!) A hook sentence may start with: A question, a fact, an exclamatory sentence, a dialogue sentence, etc. ) ( You can also look up examples of hook sentences on the internet for assistance.)
- **Paragraph 2** - ( Must be at least 6 - 8 sentences.) **\*\* Use a transition word to begin paragraph 2 )**  
(Examples of transitional words are: first, next, later, before, after, the next day, or the next morning.)
- Use dialogue in your story and descriptive words when describing your summer moment.
- **Paragraph 3** - Your conclusion paragraph ( Must be 3 - 4 sentences) ( Summarize your summer moment.)
- **Last page** - You will attach your rubric as your last page.

**\*\* This assignment is due on the first day of school and will be graded out of 50 points!! \*\***

I look forward to hearing your Summer Moment essays and I also look forward to being your teacher this upcoming school year. I hope you all had a great summer!! See you in September!

Sincerely,

Mr. Dispenza - 4th Grade Teacher

Summer Moment Graphic Organizer

Directions

- Before you begin writing your personal narrative, fill in the graphic organizer to organize your thoughts.
- For each box, just bullet point your ideas and information

The Setting ( Include the time, date, and place in your story )

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The people in your summer moment story ( Example: Who was with you on your vacation or summer outing?)

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Introduction Paragraph ( Must include a setting, the people involved in your story, and what place or event you experienced your summer moment.)

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2nd Paragraph ( Use descriptive words & dialogue between people when describing your summer moment)

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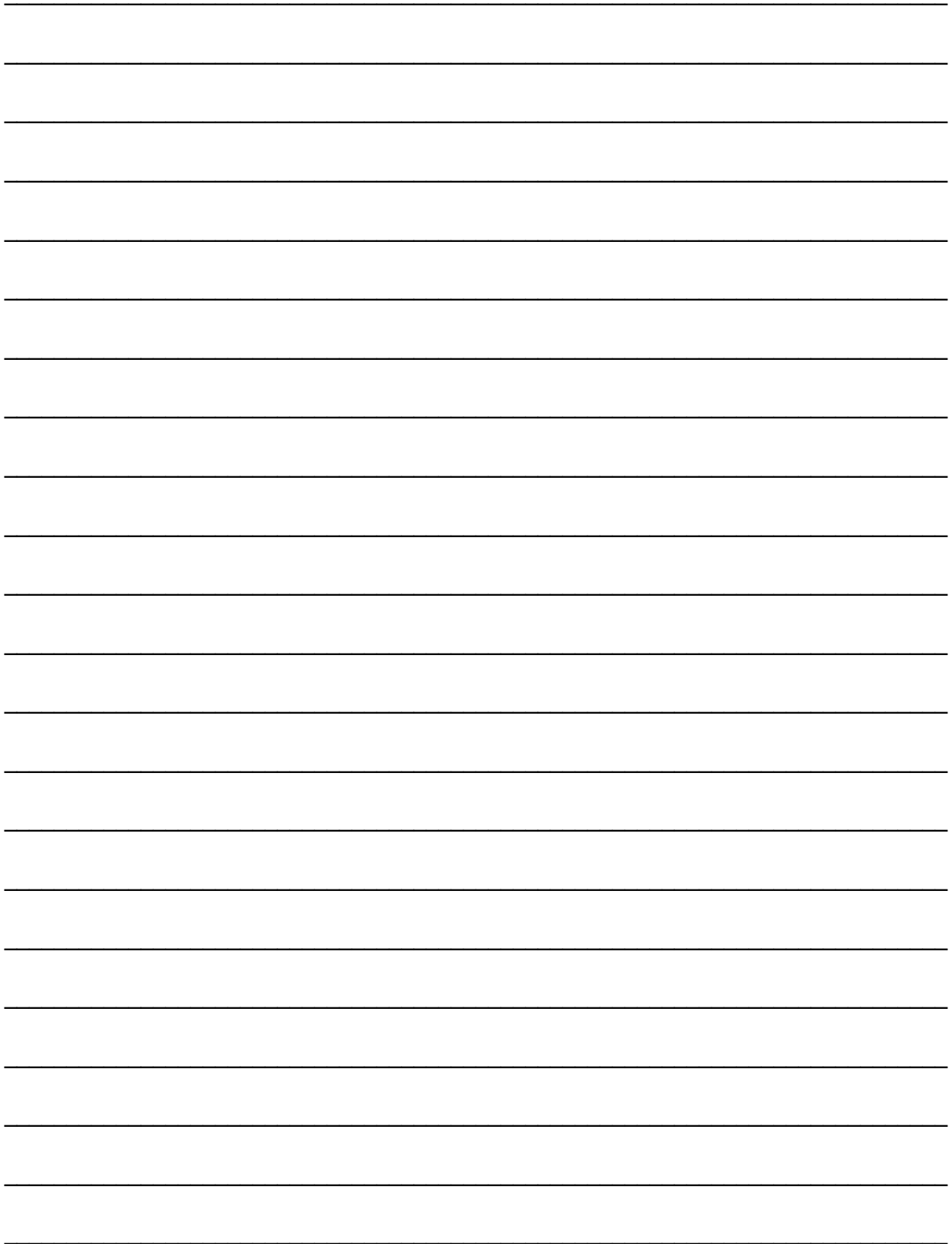
Conclusion Paragraph ( Use a conclusion word at the beginning of your sentence and sum up your summer moment.

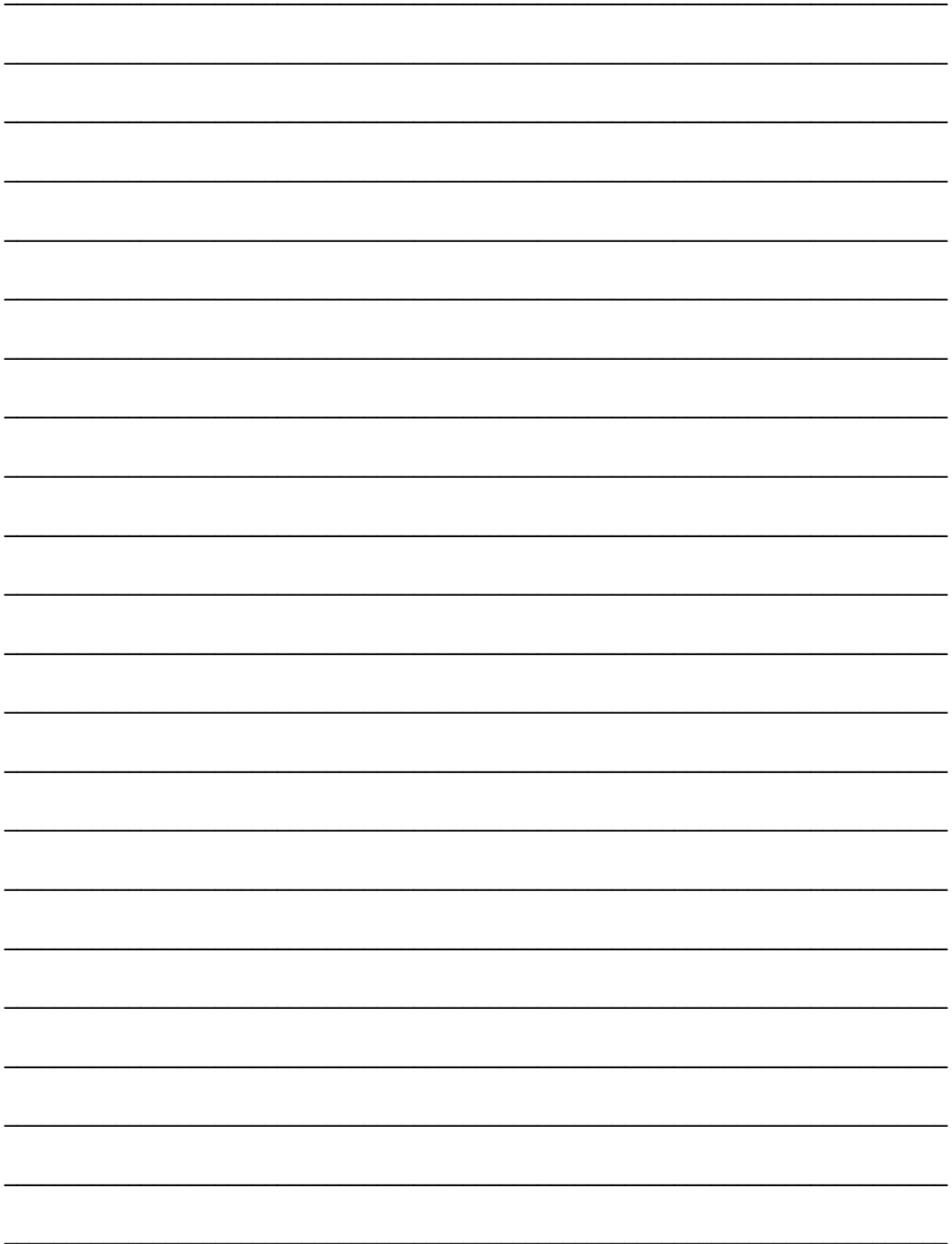
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### ELA Project: Summer Moment Personal Narrative Essay Checklist

- Did I include a cover page with a photo? ( The picture must include yourself during a summer moment.) (Example: Yourself at an amusement park, ballpark, community park, vacation, etc.) ( You may also have other people in your picture. You may also use more than one photo. )
- Did I include my title on my cover page and essay? (Title: My Summer Moment )
- Did I indent at the beginning of each paragraph?
- Did I use a hook sentence at the start of my introduction paragraph?
- Did I use a transition word at the beginning of my 2nd paragraph?  
(Examples of transition words are: Before, after, next, later, then, soon, also.)
- Did I use a conclusion word at the beginning of my 3rd paragraph?  
(Examples of conclusion words are: In conclusion, In summary, to sum up, as a result, overall, finally)
- Are all of my ideas organized and structured?
- Did I use a dictionary to find the correct spelling for unfamiliar words?
- Did I use capital letters when using nouns and pronouns?
- Did I use descriptive words to grab the reader's attention?
- Is my handwriting legible enough for my teacher to read?
- Did I remember to include my rubric as my last page?

Name:

Date:

4th Grade ELA Summer Project Rubric: Summer Moment Personal Narrative Essay

	Exceeds Expectations (10 points)	Meets Expectations ( 9 to 8 points )	Approaching Expectations ( 7 points )	Below Expectations (6 points or below)
Ideas & Organizations  _____ Points	One idea is fully developed. The narrative flows & is well organized.	One Idea is developed. The narrative has a beginning, middle, and end.	One idea is chosen, but the writer doesn't fully develop the topic. There is some evidence of organization.	Idea is not developed. The narrative is hard to follow. There is little evidence of a beginning, middle, and end.
Word Choice  _____ Points	Strong descriptive words are chosen that leave a lasting impression in the reader's mind.	Some strong descriptive words are chosen that help the reader picture the narrative in their mind.	Common words are used by the writer to engage the reader.	Simple words are used that do not leave a lasting impression on the reader.
Punctuation & Capitalization  _____ Points	All beginning and ending punctuation and capitalization are all correct.	A few errors in punctuation and/or capitalization are present.	There are more than a few errors in punctuation and/or capitalization that are distracting to the reader.	There are more than 10 - 15 errors in punctuation and/or capitalization that are distracting to the reader.
Spelling  _____ Points	All words are spelled correctly.	A few words are misspelled.	There are more than a few misspelled words.	There are more than 10 - 15 misspelled words.
Neatness  _____ Points	All handwriting is legible and neat.	Most of your essay is legible.	Some sections in your essay are hard to read.	Your essay is not legible at all.

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ out of 50 points