

Name _____

Date _____

Narrative Assignment

After reading “The New Kid,” it is now your turn to write a narrative that captures a moment of violence. Unlike the entertainment industry, which displays gratuitous violence right and left, you will include this moment of violence for a purpose. The story will hinge on an incident, perhaps quite small, that is somehow revealing about the nature of violence in general. Use “The New Kid” as a model, then use the following sheet to help you plan your story.

“The New Kid” by Murray Heyert	
Setting: Where does story take place? What details does the author use to make the setting come alive for us? What senses does he include (sight, taste, hearing, smell)?	
Characters: Who are the main characters? How do we know that Marty is insecure? How do we learn about what kind of a kid Marty is?	
Motivation: What does Marty want? How does the author convey this?	
Conflict: What is the conflict in “The New Kid”? What did Marty want that he didn’t get easily? Again, how does the author show this?	
Climax: Toward the end of the story there is usually a moment when the conflict rises and something snaps. Some change occurs either to the situation or to the character and his or her motivation. What was the climax of “The New Kid”? How did Heyert make this obvious?	

<p>Resolution: How does the story end? Usually the climax changes the situation and the resolution lets the readers glimpse what kind of a change has taken place.</p>

Your Story
<p>Setting: Where does the event take place? What senses will you use to describe the setting?</p>
<p>Characters: Who is involved? What do they look like? How do they feel? Remember, this is a short, short story, so there might be very few characters in it. That's fine; just make them memorable.</p>
<p>Motivation: What do the main characters want? It is probably something very simple. How will you convey this to the reader? Through thoughts, descriptions, or dialogue?</p>
<p>Conflict: What is the conflict in your story? In this sense the conflict is just the resistance against the characters' desires. How will you show this?</p>
<p>Climax: Toward the end of the story there is usually a moment when the conflict rises and something snaps. Some change occurs either to the situation or to the character and his or her motivation. How can you increase tension to make this the turning-point of the story?</p>

