Big Mouth & Ugly Girl
by Joyce Carol Oates
PERSONAL NARRATIVE ASSIGNMENT

The Situation
WHEN and WHERE I was falsely accused: ________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

WHY I was falsely accused: ____________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

HOW I was falsely accused: ____________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

My Reaction
HOW I felt and responded when I was falsely accused: ____________________
______________________________________________________________________

WHAT I did to try to resolve the situation: ________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

Conclusion
WHAT others can learn from my experience: ______________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
My News Article

Who________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

What________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

Where_______________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

When_______________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

Why________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________

How_______________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________
Parts of a News Article

#1 Headline - The headline titles the article. It is printed in a larger font and should grab the readers’ attention.

#2 Lead - The lead is the first paragraph of a news article. It contains the most important information of the story.

#3 Body - The body provides details on the information presented in the lead.

Tips on Writing a News Article

• Make your headline dramatic so your audience will want to continue reading.

• The lead should contain a summary of the who, what, where, when, why and how information.

• Report facts. Do not include your opinion in the article; however, you may quote the opinions of other people as part of the story.

• The information in the body should give details that support the basic information stated in the lead. More facts, statistics, and quotations are examples of the kinds of information to include in the body.
Identify the point of view for the following text from *Big Mouth & Ugly Girl*.

It was an ordinary January afternoon, a Thursday, when they came for Matt Donaghy.

They came for him during fifth period, which was Matt’s study period...

Chapter One

All through school, if I’d had to wait to be chosen for any team, I’d have waited at the sidelines like the other left behind losers.

Chapter Two
The Personal Narrative

When you write a personal narrative, you are telling a story - a story about your life, told from your point of view. Like any story, your narrative must contain

- a sequence of events (a plot)
- a problem to be solved (conflict)

Your narrative must also make a point (a theme). This gives other people a reason to read your narrative. It has something to say to them.

Writing Tips

- Involve readers in your story. Bring them close to the action.
- Don’t just tell facts; write about how you felt.
- Provide details in your telling of events. Make sure these relate to your message.
Dear Heather,

Аaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa. Аaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa. Аaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa.

Аaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa. Аaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa. Аaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa.

Your Friend,
Alicia
3000 Charles Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21218
September 29, 2007

Mr. John Smith
Editor
The Baltimore Sun
1003 Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21269

Dear Mr. Smith,

Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
aaaaaaaaaa. Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
aaa. Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa.

Aaaaaaaaaaaaaa. Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
aaaaaaaaaa. Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa.

Respectfully Yours,
Alicia B. Howell
The News Article

Every news article contains the following information:

Who
What
Where
When
Why
How
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The Sounds of Poetry

Rhyme
What kind of rhyme do you hear in the poem that you are reading or writing? Does every line of the poem rhyme, every other rhyme, or no lines at all?

Repetition
What kind of repetition do you hear in the poem that you are reading or writing? Do any words, phrases, or entire lines repeat? Do any particular sounds repeat, such as beginning consonant sounds or middle vowel sounds?

Rhythm
What kind of rhythm do you hear in the poem that you are reading or writing? If you clap out the words, do the lines follow a particular pattern? How does the rhythm affect the way you feel about the poem?
The Language of Poetry

Poetry contains words that...

• create strong mental images
• are used in an unusual way
• contain figurative language, such as similes and metaphors
• appeal to the senses
• are concrete and detailed