

## Language & Literacy Narrative Brainstorms Worksheet

Your name:

Linwei, Zheng

Instructions: Please respond to the questions that follow with as much detail and description that you can. The more you put into reflecting now on the complexities of your language and literacy development, the better off you'll be in completing our major assignment for our first phase of this course. Take as much space as you need.

---

When it comes to your experiences with language (speaking and listening) and literacy (reading and writing), what specific moments in your life can you recall that are particularly vivid or that emerge as being significant to you? Yes, it could be an example from your earliest memories of *learning* to speak, read, and write (in school or elsewhere), but it doesn't have to be. It could be a memorable encounter—a moment of tension, confusion, or triumph. It could be about experiences developing additional dialects/languages and advanced literacies (i.e., learning to speak/write in different peer groups, at school, at work, with family, online, in different locations across the nation or world, etc. Please select 3 moments to describe. Then, explain why each is interesting or significant.

1. SAT: when I started papering for SAT in 2021, I set out a routine to make sure that I can memorize a pile of words with their definition and finish the review in less than one 1 practice exam, what makes this moment significant to me was that this is one of the few moments I took things very seriously and worked hard for one thing, and still be upset with the result.
2. imitating English videos and animations: I love to talk with myself in my mind whenever I was boarded, and this action had grown more and more frequently after the pandemic, I realized the "English film only" policy back in China while staying with my grandparents had helped me develop a habit of practice speaking in English with myself while having fun with those tones I learned from different films
3. Failures in expressing myself in a different language: failures in communicating I have experienced many times where I cannot fully express myself while communicating, one of the first experiences was in kindergarten which is the first time where English speaking is a need in my life, I can still recall those moments where I must point out stuff to make sure that people could

understand me, the awful feeling of not being understood is what makes these moments significant.

What specific materials or artifacts (i.e., objects, writing, learning materials, pictures, video recordings, etc.) from your past can you locate/recall and that in some way represent a meaningful moment in your reading/writing development? This can be something like a journal or book, but also anything at all (e.g., a toy, piece of furniture, cereal box, art supplies, etc.) What memories and feelings can you extract from these examples you've gathered/recalled? Explain.

1. Sat practice book even though I threw out or gave out my SAT practice books, whenever I came across those practice books, I will find myself recalling those memories where I am forcing myself to practice for SAT exams which encourages me to work harder and harder.
2. "Kungfu panda" "transformers" "iron men" "vines." these were those English films I love to watch repeatedly and imitate those lines and tones from it, and the happiness of will always be there whenever I rewatch these films.
3. Every time I look at the graduation photo of my kindergarten class, those memories fail to conduct what I want to say.

For better or worse, who and what impacted how, when, and why you developed your languages and literacies? Who in your family, at school, among your peer group, or in your community played a part? How did your particular situation or experience shape your literacy? That is, what sorts of issues, experiences, organizations, or life circumstances played a part? What kinds of languages and literacies did you gain from those people and your particular situation? How? Why? Explain.

1. I got a few friends that had grades on the SAT that were better than mine, even those who I once thought would not perform well, these people let me realize how arrogant and ignorant I once was.
2. While I lived in China for my elementary my grandparents were taking care of me, they send me to English language afterschool and restricted my access to films that were other than English.
3. Ms.G is my 8<sup>th</sup> homeroom teacher, she is the first person that really encourages me to be confident in my speaking ability and gains by interest in classes, she changed my uncaring attitude toward classes which makes her one of the most important teachers in my life

In what ways do you see your language, reading, and writing capabilities as having social consequences or impacting your life circumstances—that is, what advantages did/do you have and what disadvantages did/do you face as a result of your language and literacy learning?

1. Practicing the reading section of the SAT grants me the ability of finding ways to understand many complex articles and texts after that.
2. Imitating character lines from films and games has given me many fun and interesting ways to interact with and understand different people in different communication.
3. Those experiences of failing in communications had encouraged me to practice and beware the fluency and the understandability of my words.

How might your experience with language and literacy connect to larger social realities (e.g., of your life, family, generation, gender, race, culture, nation, geographic location, historical moment, etc.)?

Overall, my experience with languages gains me more accessibility in my community, gain me the ability to help my families and different people of my race that were not capable to understand English language.