

MODEL #2

Personal Narrative Essay

① **I'll never forget the time** I was mean to my best friend, Lili. Lili is nice and smart and fun to be around. But she is also quiet and she dresses differently from other kids.

②③ **It all began when** a girl named Alicia said that she was having a slumber party. She told me I could come only if I ignored Lili for the entire week. I really wanted to go to the party, so I agreed. ④ I didn't talk to Lili. I didn't eat lunch with her. I didn't walk to school with her. I pretended she didn't exist.

⑤⑥ **One day,** Alicia and I found Lili in the bathroom crying. Alicia laughed at her. At recess she told everyone in school that Lili was a big

I The introduction tells what and who the narrative will be about.

P Each paragraph after the introduction tells the next event in chronological order, the order in which they occurred.

CW Each paragraph begins with connecting words and phrases that help explain the order.

D Descriptive details support the main idea of each paragraph. They make the narrative more interesting.

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crybaby. ⑦ **Later,** I went to Lili's house to say I was sorry. Soon we were talking and laughing like old times. But the next day at school, I ignored Lili again.

⑧⑨ **Finally,** it was the day of the slumber party. ⑩ My mom drove me to Alicia's house. I rang the doorbell, but no one answered. ⑪ Then I heard laughing and saw all the girls pointing at me. ⑫ The slumber party had been one big trick.

⑬ **That's when I realized** that being Alicia's friend meant being mean. I didn't want to be mean. I just wanted my best friend back. It took a long time for Lili to forgive me. I'm glad that she did. Having a best friend who is nice and caring is better than having a bunch of friends who are mean.

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CP The concluding paragraph explains what the writer learned from the experience. It can also tell the last event in the chronological sequence.