

Grade 4th 5th

Personal Experience Narrative- Basketball game

Feedback for Improvement of Writing

Summarizing Framework

This is a story about me.

The experience was competing in a basketball game against the Longhorns.

The experience concluded when the game was over and my team lost.

What worked: This is a focused narrative with all elements of the diamond included

- **Entertaining Beginning:** There is a sense of story with a strong entertaining beginning, middle, and end. The writer used action and thoughts/feelings effectively.
- **Elaborative Detail:** In the second paragraph, the author stops the story action to describe the setting at the gym. “Sweet aroma of popcorn”, “gleaming wooden floors”, “sturdy goal”
- **Main Event:** The author used action, thoughts/feelings, description of feelings (show don't tell), and sound effects “Swish!”, “Rrrrrr”.
- Powerful vocabulary “victorious”, “gleaming”, “reflected”, “sturdy”, “swished”, “athletic team”, “orange ball”.
- **Extended Ending:** There is a successful ending including a decision and a wish.
- The theme “everybody loses sometimes” is evident as the story unfolds.

Feedback with Prescriptive Feedback:

CHOOSE a Focus Skill: One skill that will make the biggest impact

- **Suspense:** There was evidence of suspense in the word “Suddenly,” however, it would improve the writing to add story questions or a magic of three segment to tease the reader.

Red Flag Words and Phrases

The Magic of Three

Shoot

My new shoes rubbed against the dark gravel as I made my way toward the gym. Once I walked through the door I quickly got in line ready for the announcer to call my name. The Long Horns were confident that they would win, but I thought it would be the opposite because if we didn't win we would still be in last place. Surely, we would be victorious this basketball game. The line moved and finally I heard the announcer call, "Jake S." I ran out to the court.

The sweet aroma of popcorn met my nose and that assured me people were watching. The gym's gleaming wooden floors reflected the lights above. I notice the sturdy goal was about nine feet high and ready for a game. The people were everywhere. Some were large, some were small, but all were here for a basketball game.

I sped to my team, which included five young males, Tanner, Hunter, Nathaniel, Luke, and Dominick, Once there, we all ran to the middle to start the game. Since we had the ball first Tanner passed the ball to me. I slowly dribbled to the line. I arched my legs over the line and someone tried to steal the ball, but instead I shook him off and went for the goal. I jumped and made the easy layup. They came down with the

ball. They passed one and shot. Swish! The ball flew in the basket. The game went on. We scored and then they scored. Finally Tanner stole the ball and passed to me. I took a free throw shot and swished it before they knew what hit them. They just answered with two more points. The game was close.

Sweat trickled down my forehead as I gazed at the clock. The score was twenty-nine to thirty. We were down by one with five seconds left. Hunter passed to Tanner. Tanner threw the ball to Nathaniel. He passed to me. I shot. Rrrrr! Went the buzzer. The orange ball circled the rim. I crossed my fingers. It hit the backboard.

“Come on!” I whispered. Suddenly, it fell out! Sorrow filled me as I hung my head.

I realized every team loses sometimes, and I can't always be the hero. I had so wished for us to defeat the Long Horns, and bring our athletic team to victory. Even though I knew everyone has days when things go wrong, it didn't help the feeling of defeat.