Narrative Essay

The first important thing to remember about a narrative essay is that it tells a story. You may write about
.an experience or event from his or her past
.a recent or an ongoing experience or event
.something that happened to somebody else, such as a parent or a grandparent

The second important thing about a narrative essay is that the story should have a point. In the final paragraph, you should come to an important conclusion about the experience that has just been described.

This sample essay begins with a general statement, "Learning something new can be a scary experience." This statement introduces the subject of the essay, which is a particular learning experience that you had. The use of "I" in the essay indicates that what is being described is a personal experience.

The essay is essentially a story about something that happened. You have to give sufficient details about the people, place, and events so that the reader gets a clear idea of how you feel about them. In the essay, you "stood timidly" and the teacher "smiled" and was "patient." These words indicate your fears and the sense of security provided by the teacher who helped you get over your fear.

In the final paragraph of the essay, you have to reflect on the larger meaning or importance of the experience described. You have to conclude that learning to swim has helped you to feel more confident about yourself in other new situations. The idea that self-confidence comes from conquering your fears is something that all people can relate to. This is the point of the story.

The essay is well-organized. After the introduction, you will describe the experience as it happened in time -- going to the pool the first day, having the first lesson, and the result of the subsequent lessons. You should talk about the things you learned in order of their importance or difficulty.

The writing in a narrative essay should be **lively and interesting**. Try to engage the reader's interest by **adding details or personal observations**. Sharing personal thoughts and details invites the reader into author's world and makes the story more personal and more interesting.