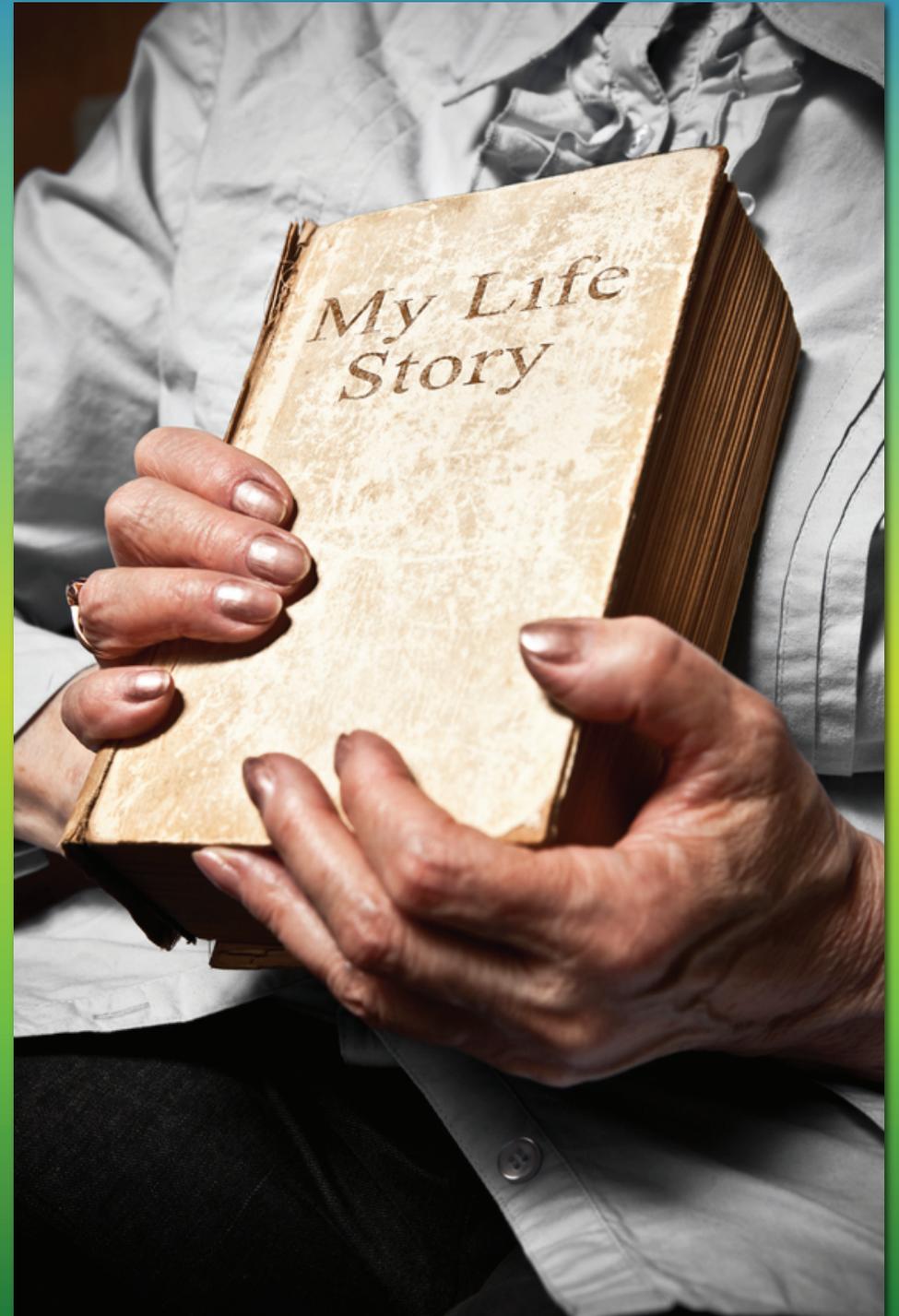


Writing A Biography

Purpose:

To provide details of a person's life in an informative and entertaining manner.

Study***ladder***



Types of Biographies:

Biography

An author's account of another person's life.

Autobiography

An account of the author's own life.

Historical Biography

A biography about a person's life, with particular attention to historical events.

Fictional Biography

A made-up biography about a fictional person's life.

Memoir

A narrative written by the author about important events that shaped their own life.

Structure:

1) Orientation:

The introduction to a biography gives background information about the person. It tells the reader why the person is noteworthy and should have a biography written about them.

Language Features:

- * The orientation should grab the reader's attention.*
- * It should answer the questions of: who, what, where, when and how.*

2) Series of Events:

The main body of your writing should describe significant events that occurred in the person's life. These events need to be written in chronological order (order of time).

Language Features:

- * Use third person and past tense.**
- * Use capital letters for names of people and places.**
- * Use time connectives.**
- * Use action verbs.**
- * Use a variety of sentence structure.**
- * Language should keep the reader's interest.**

3) Reorientation:

The reorientation should summarize the person's life. It should remind the reader of the person's achievements and the impact the person has made on society. The author can add a personal comment in the reorientation.

Language Features:

- * Use emotive language.***
- * The reorientation should leave the reader with a feeling that they know the person and value their achievements.***

Questions to consider:

What makes the person interesting or special?

What events shaped the person's life?

What were the person's achievements?

Did the person overcome obstacles in their life?

What adjectives best describe the person?

What are some examples that demonstrate these qualities?

What effects did the person's life have on others?

What effects did the person's life have on the world?

How is the world a better/worse place because of the person?

