

# LTW SUPPLEMENT

## Essay Seven

### Arrangement A: Guide to Narratio

*These Narratio exercises will aid students who need to see more detailed questions in order to find all the steps in creating a background story that leads to their issue. These pages can augment or replace Student Workbook p.81 and Teacher Guide p. 214.*

#### **PART ONE:**

To write a background story for your issue, start below at the red “START HERE” section. There, write your issue. Then answer the question above it (question two). Then answer the question above that (question three) and so on until you reach the top of the list. Write one item on each line. (Don’t use “and.”) Add or delete causes (the “why” questions) as necessary. You’ll usually end up with three to five causes in your causal chain of events.

After you reach the end of the chain (at the top of your list), stop adding causes. Go to the section called, “Last step of part one” (below) and answer questions A–D.

Why?

Why?

Why?

4. Why?

3. Why did that happen?

2. Why (i.e., what caused the character to make that decision)?

#### **1. START HERE:**

Actor of issue:

Had to decide (action of issue):

**Go up the list from here till you reach the top.**

*Note: These actions happened, so write them in past tense.*

**Last step of part one:** After we find the causal chain of events that led to the issue, we need to know when the story began. To write the story's beginning, follow the steps below:

A. Think about the cause on the top line of the list you just created.

B. Write the time that cause happened by selecting one term below and completing the phrase that tells us when it was. (Examples: "After Bottom had been turned into a donkey," "When a decree went out from Caesar Augustus," "During the reign of Caspian the 10th")

- After...
- When...
- During...
- Once upon a time...
- While...
- One day...

C. Write the term you selected:

D. Add the rest of a phrase to describe the time you stated:

## **PART TWO:**

**Below, rewrite** the causal chain of events you found above. Start at the top with the time the story began. End at the bottom with the issue's actor and action. (Add or subtract "cause" lines to fit your story.)

- Time of cause 1:
- Cause 1:
- Cause 2:
- Cause 3:
- Cause 4:
- Issue:
  - Actor:
  - Action:

**Read** your Part Two list and make any needed changes: add any causes you missed, rearrange causes that were out of order, replace pronouns with proper nouns for clarity, add antecedents, etc.

**Move** the narratio information (start time and list of causes) to your Arrangement B form.