

Stage in Writing Process
Brainstorming and Collecting

- 1) Brainstorm "transformative" moments in your life (BIG or small) by:
 - Free-writing (maybe pose a prompt for yourself: A moment that stands out...)
 - Creating a timeline by charting events in your life from lil' you to young adult you
 - Chat with a pal (talking things out helps us understand and process information. Ask each other questions like: **What moment do you think truly shows who you are? Have you ever proven everyone wrong in their beliefs about you? When did you challenge an idea? Or overcome a challenge?**)

- 2) How did this moment (you can do this for multiple moments and see which is most attractive to you) affect you? What did you learn about yourself? Your world?

- 3) Create an outline for a structure
OR
Use a mentor text to guide your structure

Example of me using Nancy's essay to plot my course through my essay

Nancy's Structure

- Paragraph 1: Hook + Slowing down a moment by using the senses /sensory image
Paragraph 2: Context – who, what, where (personal history /background)
Paragraph 3: Start of Nancy's transformation
Paragraph 4: Transformation is clear
Paragraph 5: Reflection (future, Goal, Decision made, Hope)