# Writing and the English Language Learner

Montgomery College 8<sup>th</sup> Professional Development Conference For Teachers by Teachers Saturday, March 7, 2015

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# Rally Table

In pairs, alternate generating written responses to the question



## Agenda

- Writing narratives (pointers, editing symbols, rubrics, student work
- Writing opinion essays (writing process, rainbow writing graphic organizer, transition signals, sample work)
- Essay Topics: GED Placement Test, Montgomery College ESL Placement Test

## Why Teach Narrative Writing

- Every student has a story to tell.
- It's easy to transfer the skills to other types of writing.
- It sequences ideas in a clear, orderly way.

## **Elements of Narrative Writing**

- Describes personal experience
- Uses vivid verbs and modifiers
- Includes precise details

#### How Can You Support ELLS Writing?

- Scaffold Writing Activities
- Provide Appropriate and On-going Assessment

#### Scaffolding

- Provide students with sufficient time to brainstorm and discuss ideas in the prewriting stage
- Teach students to use graphic organizers to focus their writing
- Teach/review compound, complex sentences as well as key transition words

# **On-going Assessment**

- Hold one-on-one with students to discuss works in progress
- Assist students with the use of rubrics when writing/reading their written work
- Provide opportunities for peer editing
- Give clear, specific feedback

#### Supporting ELLs' Writing Let's Work Together to Do Better

