

FULL Names:

Hr:

**SEE OTHER SHEET for DIRECTIONS on What to Mark Up on Here**

### **EVALUATE SAMPLE STORY**

MAKE COMMENTS ON HERE – **Carefully Follow Directions on the OTHER Sheet** – Note You are NOT Identifying the Lit Tech (that is already done)

MANY more samples of finished papers on Ms. Kaminski's Web Page

Note: how how various elements are labeled which you will do for your final paper.

Personal Narrative

By McKendra

The crystal clear lake looked beautifully refreshing as we finally arrived at our destination. I could not wait to dip my freshly painted toes into the playful waves of the untamed lake. Click whirr! (Onomatopoeia) The automated door opened and a stream of young girls, including myself, flowed out of the stifling vehicle. A sigh escaped my lips as my feet, clad in striped flip-flops, touched down on the cracked pavement of the driveway.

Taking in a deep breath of fresh air I turned in a circle taking in the many sights and scents of the forest. My attention was immediately drawn to the shimmering lake and excitement slowly bloomed throughout my body. My mesmerised state was fractured by a voice, “Sweetheart, come on inside the other girls are all putting on their suits,” Katy’s mom came and guided me to the front door, “ Why don’t you join them?” Taking one last look behind at my newly found treasure, I went to find the girls. (Reaction Introduction)

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I heard giggling and laughing and followed it to the living room where five girls sat. “So I heard Mike has a crush on you, huh?” interrogated a lively Olivia.

Bashfully Alisha turns away, as a red hue spreads across her cheeks, “Well maybe. Where did you hear that?”

“Oh from the culprit himself,” states Olivia matter of factly, “So do you like-like him too?” Everyone in the room noticeably leans in, waiting for Alisha’s answer.

“Um well I don’t know, maybe a little.” Alisha’s answer provokes the whole crowd into an uproaring of ooo’s.

Being the only person still standing I am the first to notice Katy’s mom walk in, “What are you ladies up to in here?” Kathy looks at us with a smile in her eyes, “Does anyone want to go tubing?” Instantly my hand shoots into the air like a circus clown shooting out of a cannon. (Simile) I look around at the apprehension on everyone else’s faces,(foreshadowing) except the one and only birthday girl’s. Disappointed, Kathy slowly looks around, “Really no one else wants to go?” The remainder of the girls shake their heads. “Fine, I guess I’ll just take these two.” Excitedly I skip to the door and out on to the porch, with Katy close on my tail. After grabbing my towel I make my way to the dock. Stepping off the porch steps my soles are welcomed by the cushioning of thick, lush, grass

the color of emeralds. I continue on with my expedition to the dock with the swishing of grass under my feet.

“Come on McKendra, hurry up!” shouts an ecstatic Katy who is already boarding her tube.

Laughing to myself I pick up the pace, “Coming!” **Within seconds the dock is under my feet and the warmth of the sun-worn planks seep into my skin. My eyes close as I take in the warm blanket of rays I have been wrapped in, (Imagery)** today was going to be a great day!

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**I laid on the flamboyant tube as it bobbed in the cool deserted lake. The sun beat down on my exposed legs like the desert sun beats down on a stilled cactus.(Simile)**  
**The silent wind dances across my face and then moves on to tease the waves.**

(Personification)(Imagery) Off in the distance I hear a voice call to me, “Are you ready?” Dazed by the heat I lift my hand into a thumbs up position and grip onto my salvation. There is a quick tug of the rope and my tube is all but ripped from underneath me. My scorched feet plummet into the dark frigid waters, and a shiver runs through my body.

“Maybe this wasn’t such a good idea!” I try to shout into the wind. To no avail my voice is lost in the sounds of the roaring boat engine and the harsh waves pounding my body. To my despair my feet cross the threshold of the icy water once again. But this time is different, this time the sinister water starts to drag me with it, back into the murky depths of chilling water. Soon the water is sucking at my stomach. My fingers turn white with the effort of holding myself up. In that moment, time seemed to slow and I knew, I was going under. The waves gave one more hard tug, and my tube hit another wave simultaneously. I am suspended in the air for half a second before I plummet to my demise. The cold infiltrates my body and robs me of the sun’s warmth. The icy fingers of water crawl across my body

freezing my core to a ball of ice. My life jacket kicks in and starts to pull me up to the surface. I gasp for breath as my face breaks the surface of glass. Spluttering water, I wipe the water out of my irritated eyes. I slowly look around at the large expanse of water surrounding me. I notice the boat turning in a large circle to retrieve me.

At first all I hear is laughing, but then a voice as loud as a lion's roar reaches my ears, "You all right?"

"Peachy," I laugh and start my swim, mind set on reaching my tube before they could reel it in, "I want to go again that was great!"

Katy's dad chuckles, "Slow down there tiger don't want you getting yourself hurt!" I ignore him and reach my tube just in time. Katy holds one side of the tube down while I jump up on the opposite side. As I jump up the water tugs on the bottom half of my swimsuit, but my bottoms stay securely plastered to my behind.

"Alright, all ready to go!" I shout enthusiastically towards the boat. The engine revs and then we are off once again. The mighty wind blows back my hair and the water splashes back at my face taunting me. "This time you won't get me. I'll hold on if its the last thing I do." I thought to myself defiantly. The water below me must have heard this thought and took it as a personal challenge, because boy, was I in for a ride.

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I had been doing great up until lately, the waves had become relentless. One wave after another crashed down on my body, goading me. I spotted a speed boat up ahead and prayed that the driver did not see it himself. As if wanting to taunt me further the boat changed directions and headed towards the very thing I wanted to avoid. Preparing myself I readjusted my grip, I was ready! First there was a calm and then we hit the waves. The first I cleared with no sweat, then I was through the second. It was at the end of the very last wave when the dark lake took its revenge upon me. Time slowed and my body dipped into

the chilly lake. One end of the wave ripped my upper body up and the water under me did the same with my bottom half. The lake was at war with itself each wave tugging me in different directions. The top wave finally won out, but the other wave would not be satisfied with nothing. If the wave could not have me then it would just take something of mine instead, just like that my bottoms were gone. Noticing instantly I surrendered myself to the murky depths of the lake. With the feeling of fire licking across my skin I quickly swam back the way we had come.

“Are you alright down there what’s going on?” Kathy questioned peeking over the side of the boat.

Even in the icy waters my temperature rose just a hair and my cheeks turned from pink to a deep scarlet, “I uh..... I lost my pants.”

Sitting in the water I thought of the many things people would say. Most would laugh and poke fun. But, I decided that this one downfall would not take away from the amazing day I had. Plus, who doesn’t love a good old embarrassing story? (Question Conclusion)