

## WRITING DEVELOPMENT

**RULE #1: If anything I say on this page conflicts with what your teachers have told you, I am wrong, and they are right.**

### African Americans and Women in WWII

#### 14. Narrative analysis I – narrative

To write a narrative, you must:

- Plan out the events/developments you intend to describe, in the logical order; these are the events for which you will ‘tell the story’, using subordinating conjunctions of time and sequence such as: ‘First’, ‘Next’, ‘After’, ‘Before’, ‘Later’, ‘Initially’, ‘At last’, ‘Also’, ‘In addition’, ‘Meanwhile’, ‘Simultaneously’, ‘Furthermore’.
- Provide some relevant ‘proving’ information about the event/development.
- Better essays will explain the importance/significance of the event/development; why was it a key event in the narrative?

Let’s say you are asked: “Write a narrative account of the achievements of Black Americans during WWII.”

Study the following timeline of dated moments from the webpage:

| Date         | Event Summary   |
|--------------|---|
| 1941         | When A. Philip Randolph threatened a protest march in, Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802, outlawing racial discrimination in the war industry, and set up the Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) to enforce it. |
| 1942         | The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) was founded, and organised its first sit-ins against segregated restaurants in 1943.   |
| 1944         | The 761st Tank Battalion – the ‘black panthers’ – fought in the Battle of the Bulge.  |
| 1944         | At Peleliu Island in the Pacific, the 17th SeeBee (Construction Brigade) company rescued wounded soldiers under fire, and picked up their rifles and fought back.   |
| 1944         | Nearly 2 million Black workers were employed in war-production.   |
| 1944         | The Supreme Court ruled that US trade unions had a duty of ‘fair representation’ of both Black and White workers.   |
| 1944         | Irene Morgan, an African American woman, was arrested for refusing to move from the ‘white’ seating section of a Greyhound interstate bus.  |
| Feb-Mar 1945 | The 6888th predominantly Black battalion of the US Women's Army Corps, led by Major Charity Adams, travelled to Birmingham, England, and cleared a backlog of 4 million undelivered items of mail.                          |

You will see that the timeline already provides: (a) the sequence of key events

- Think which subordinating conjunction of time/sequence you would use to introduce each development.
- Underline the ‘(b) proving information’ provided on the timeline.
- Use the information on the webpage to create a similar narrative list with proving information for the essay:

“Write a narrative account of the achievements of women during WWII.”

**NOTE: this Writing Development exercise is only about writing a simple narrative; you will look at the ‘analysis’ side of writing a ‘narrative analysis’ essay in the Writing Development exercise #17 on Law and Order.**