

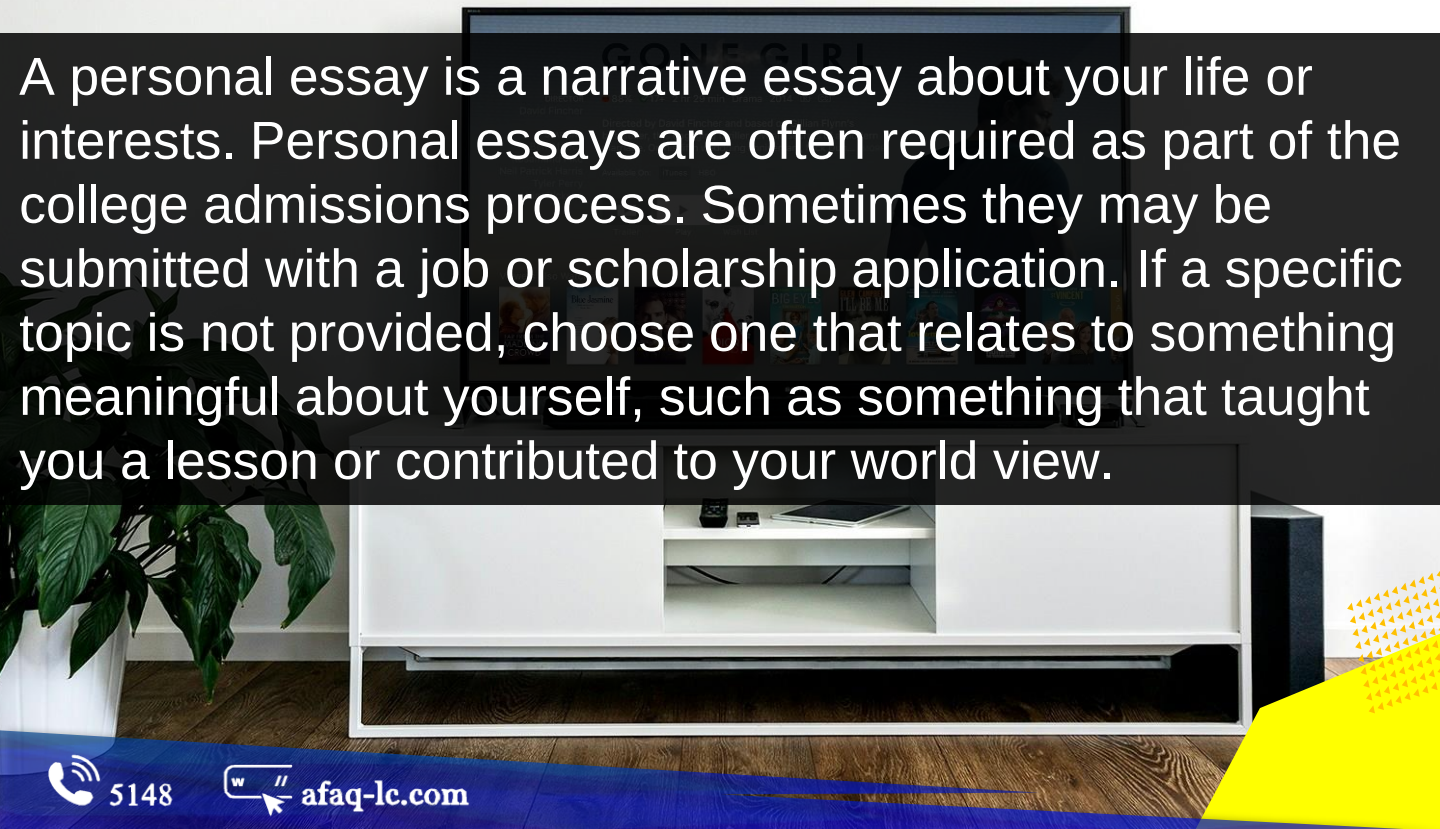
StartUp 7

Writing

Unit8 – Lesson5

Page98

READ ABOUT PERSONAL ESSAYS.



A personal essay is a narrative essay about your life or interests. Personal essays are often required as part of the college admissions process. Sometimes they may be submitted with a job or scholarship application. If a specific topic is not provided, choose one that relates to something meaningful about yourself, such as something that taught you a lesson or contributed to your world view.

Have Ss skim the text again and do the task. Then check the answers in class.

READ THE MODEL. WHAT WAS THE INCIDENT THAT CHANGED THE WRITER'S PERSPECTIVE?

When I was 13 years old, I learned a powerful lesson about finding the hidden talents within any person, including myself.

Up until then, I had been a shy child. I did well enough in school, and I had a few friends. But I did not consider myself particularly talented at anything.

When I started the eighth grade, there was a new boy at school named David. He had some learning problems; I now understand that he was autistic. Social interactions were difficult for him, so he did not have many friends. Unfortunately, children in my class often teased and bullied him. Although I did not participate in this bullying, I also did not intervene; instead, I stood aside.

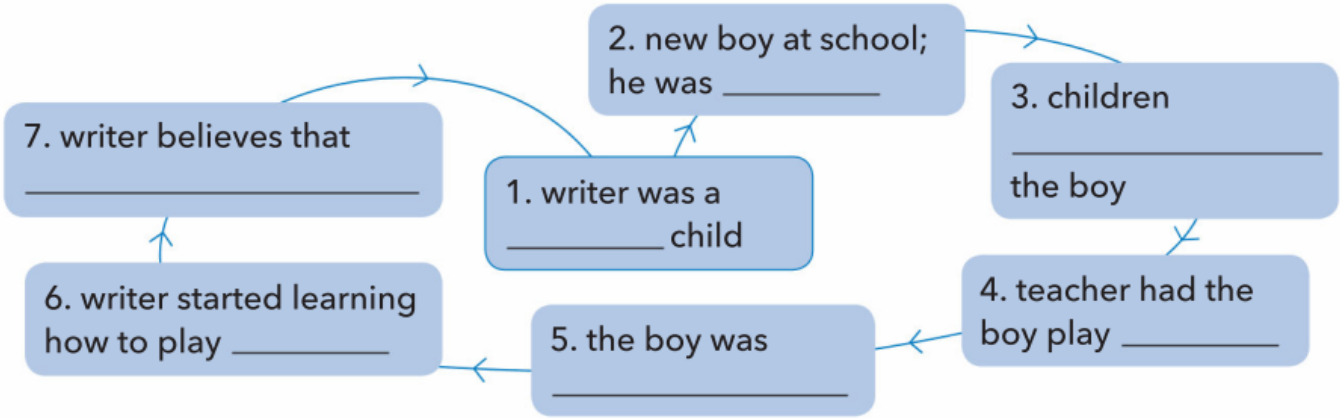
One day, in math class, some of my classmates were again teasing David. The teacher saw what was happening. His reaction surprised all of us. He left the room without saying anything. When he came back five minutes later, he was holding a guitar. He set up a chair at the front of the classroom and asked David to sit in it. He handed him the guitar, and the boy started playing and singing. To our surprise, he had an amazing voice and could play the guitar like a professional. It was the most touching music I had ever heard.

From that day on, everyone treated David differently. My classmates and I finally started to accept him for who he was. We understood that although he was different from us, he still had something beautiful to offer the world.

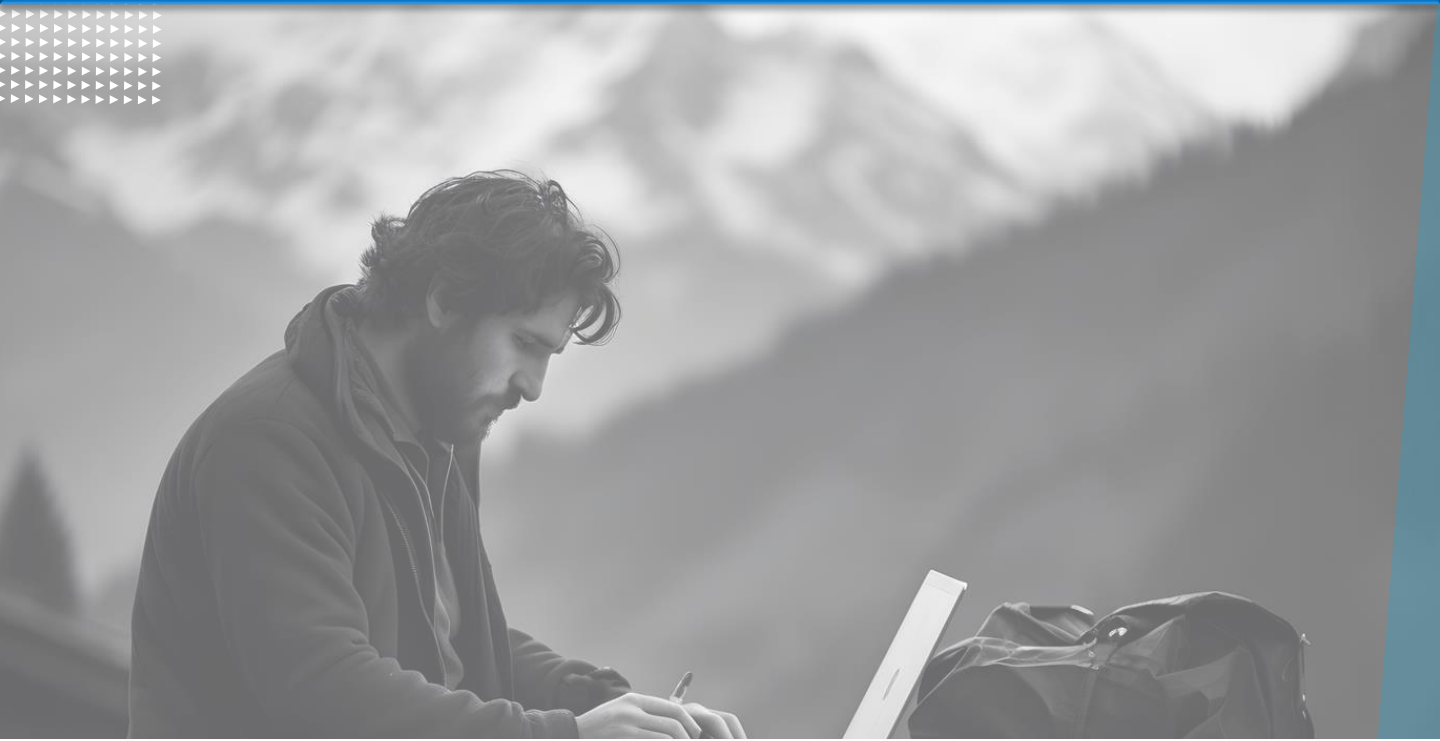
That was not the only lesson I learned on that day. It also marked a turning point in my own life, when I started to look more deeply for the potential inside myself. That year I took up the piano. It was not easy; I had to practice every day. But I understood that the process of learning was just as important as the result. I did not have to be perfect; I just had to believe in myself and have the confidence to keep trying. This belief has pushed me to try many new things, to apply myself 100% to everything I do. Since that day many years ago, I have believed that everyone, including myself, has the potential to contribute something beautiful to the world.

Have Ss scan the text again and do the task. Then check the answers in class.

D Read the model again. Take notes in the chart.



Teach the writing skill and have the Ss do the task in class.



2 FOCUS ON WRITING

Read the Writing Skill. Then read the model again. Underline the sentences that state or restate the main ideas.

WRITING SKILL Use redundancy

Redundancy is stating a point over and over. If you restate your thesis at different points in the essay, it can help readers understand the connections between your ideas and remember your main idea.

WRITING INPUT

Redundancy

I learned a powerful lesson about finding the hidden talents within any person, including myself.

1. We understood that although he was different from us, he still had something beautiful to offer the world.
2. That was not the only lesson I learned on that day.
3. It also marked a turning point in my own life, when I started to look more deeply for the potential inside myself.
4. Since that day many years ago, I have believed that everyone, including myself, has the potential to contribute something beautiful to the world.

Teach the models to the Ss.

WRITING OUTPUT

I learned a powerful lesson about finding the hidden talents within any person, including myself.

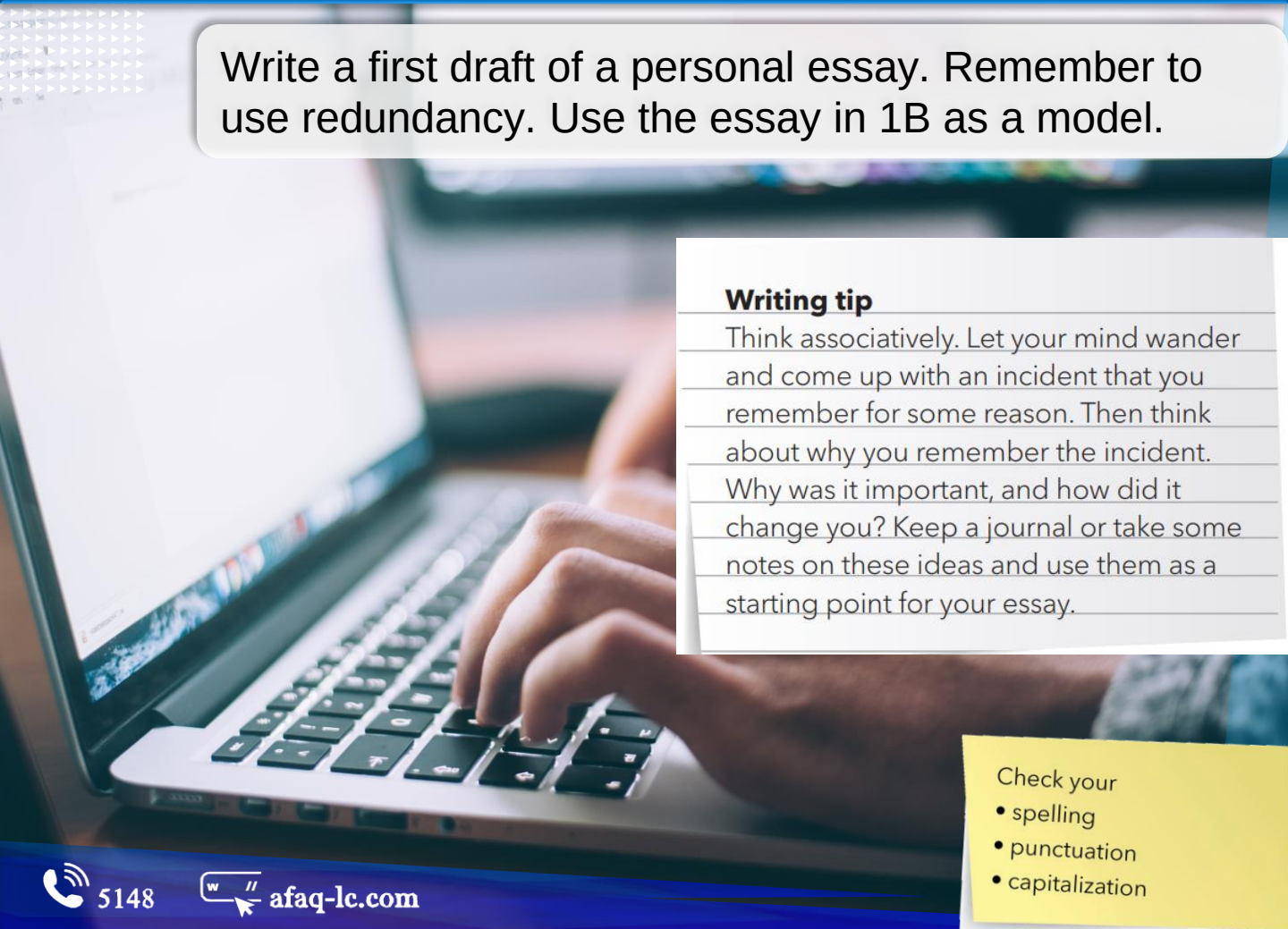
1. We understood that although he was different from us, he still had something beautiful to offer the world.
2. That was not the only lesson I learned on that day.
3. It also marked a turning point in my own life, when I started to look more deeply for the potential inside myself.
4. Since that day many years ago, I have believed that everyone, including myself, has the potential to contribute something beautiful to the world.

Think of a time in your life when you learned an important lesson. Write one main idea and use redundancy to repeat what you said.

Ask the Ss to personalize the model in the public chat.

Read the directions aloud. Then have Ss complete the task as homework.

Write a first draft of a personal essay. Remember to use redundancy. Use the essay in 1B as a model.



Writing tip

Think associatively. Let your mind wander and come up with an incident that you remember for some reason. Then think about why you remember the incident. Why was it important, and how did it change you? Keep a journal or take some notes on these ideas and use them as a starting point for your essay.

Check your
- spelling
- punctuation
- capitalization