# Worksheet Sections

Follow the order of the sections below to begin putting together your personal story. In each section you will learn different aspects of what specific details should be highlighted for the type of story you wish to tell. *Click on any of the hyperlinks below to begin working on that section.*

**Step 1.** [Work on ‘My Story Paragraph](#_e8kyx6kh7lir)’

**Step 2.** [Finish Draft of Parts A & B](#_fe7jlxefgcmy)

**Step 3.** [Finish Draft of Part C & D](#_j1kknzp5oy7)

**Step 4.** [Final Versions of Part D & consider work on Part E](#_kiujj0fbi9k)

## **My Story Paragraph**

*In a short paragraph (5-7 sentences), tell us why the issue of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is personally important to you. This is intended to be a* very *rough draft and a jumping off point for discussion--don’t worry about making it perfect or fitting your whole life story into 5 sentences.*

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## **Part A. Data “Top 10 Relevant Facts”**

List 10 short factual pieces of information that are central to your story. Think of specific information that distinguishes you and your situation. *(i.e. Age, Housing Status, Migration Status, Job/Career, Income, Geographic Location, Family Members, Diagnosis/Symptoms/Treatments, Costs of Services).*

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| 3 |  |
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| 8 |  |
| 9 |  |
| 10 |  |

**Any Other Relevant Information? Note it below.**

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## **Part B. Characters and Imagery**

Think about the way you usually explain your situation to someone. Or practice telling your story to someone now. List out the following details of the story you tell.

| **Character Description**  *What is its name? What does it look like?*  *What does it sound or feel like?*  (\*Character can be a person, place, or thing/item) | **How are they cast or portrayed?**  *As the Victim, Villain or Hero*  (\*Can be more than one) |
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| **Any Other Relevant Characters?** | **Historic or Current Characters?** |
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## **Part C. Fairytale**

Imagine you are trying to explain your story as if it was a fairytale.

| **Element of the Fairy Tale** | **Guiding Question** | **What this Does** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1. Context**  *Once upon a time...* | What does your audience need to know to understand this story? | Explains your relatable character |
|  | | |
| **2. An inciting moment/Pivot**  *Then one day...* | What has changed? | Introduces your obstacle |
|  | | |
| **3. Heightening**  *And because of that...* | How are stakes growing? | This is why we care about the character and the goal |
|  | | |
| **4. Revelation**  *Until finally...* | How do things get better? | Explains how the obstacle is overcome |
|  | | |
| **5. Resolution**  *And ever since...* | What does the future look like because of this story? | This is the admirable, obtainable goal |
|  | | |

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## **Part D. 3 Story Texts & 3 Story Images**

This is the final step. Take a moment to review all that you have put together in the earlier sections of this worksheet and use them to create 3 slightly different compelling stories with 3 different images. Remember, that each text/image will be different depending on its intention (**Organizing**-*build relationships*, **Advocacy**-*influence*, **Mobilizing**-*motivate*).

| **Intention** | **Text** |
| --- | --- |
| **Organizing**  *Stories that connect individuals & build relationships*  *(Part C. 1-3)*  Sympathy, Empathy, Admiration |  |
| **Organizing**  *Image(s)* |  |

| **Intention** | **Text** |
| --- | --- |
| **Mobilizing**  *Stories that motivate folks to take specific action*  *(Part C. 1-5)*  Awe,  Surprise,  Sadness/Anger  Vigilance |  |
| **Mobilizing**  *Image(s)* |  |

| **Intention** | **Text** |
| --- | --- |
| **Advocacy**  *Stories that influence decisions*  *(Part C. 1-4)*  Anger, Fear, Interest, Optimism |  |
| **Advocacy**  *Image(s)* |  |

## **Part E. Bonus Story Challenge!!**

Sometimes showcasing the depth and breadth of your story can be helpful to move a broader or very particular audience. Remember, you want to provide windows in your story (to share an experience that is new to the audience) or provide mirrors (so that your audience recognizes themselves when they hear your story). Review your notes from the second half of [Part B](#_95n78ogc12hw) for this section.

| **Intention** | **Text** |
| --- | --- |
| **Organizing & Advocacy**  *\*Story with link to history, other social movements/ issues or bringing in other people’s stories* |  |
| **Organizing & Advocacy**  *Image(s)* |  |