

# Planning the Paper

## Activity 6: Analyzing Models

Students analyze models to identify the key features of a narrative about a special event.

**Refer** students to My Birthday and Questions About a Special Event on Resource Pages 20 and 21.

**Direct** students to complete the questions, and then discuss each one with them. Students may also analyze Stacy’s and José’s papers on Resource Pages 22 and 23, using the questions on Resource Page 21.

**Help** students to analyze the papers further by asking these types of questions:

- ▶ Did the writer want to do something during the event but actually do something else?
- ▶ Does the writer explain what made the event special?
- ▶ Can you picture the event?

### My Birthday by Eliza

I will never forget my birthday last summer. I went swimming in the lake with my father and brothers. We walked home barefoot through the field, and there were so many daisies we couldn’t help walking on them. I was thinking it was a beautiful sunny day to have my birthday on. I was happy but not especially excited.

When we got home it was very quiet and my brothers were smiling at me. Then all of a sudden all my friends jumped out of nowhere and shouted, “Happy Birthday!” We untangled a spider’s web of strings my mother made, and there were funny prizes at the end. My friends stayed for supper and we had spaghetti squash and artichokes, my favorite things.

I remember how happy I was because of the sun and the daisies and the surprise party. I wished every day was that happy. Now whenever a day starts quietly, I know you can never tell what will happen.