



Biography Writing Workshop



Overview

- **Define a Biography**
- **Structure**
- **Examples of a Biography**
- **Biography Revision Exercise**
- **Parent/Guardian Approval and Deadline**

What Is a Biography?

What Is a Biography?

bi-og-ra-phy (noun)

a written account of a person's life

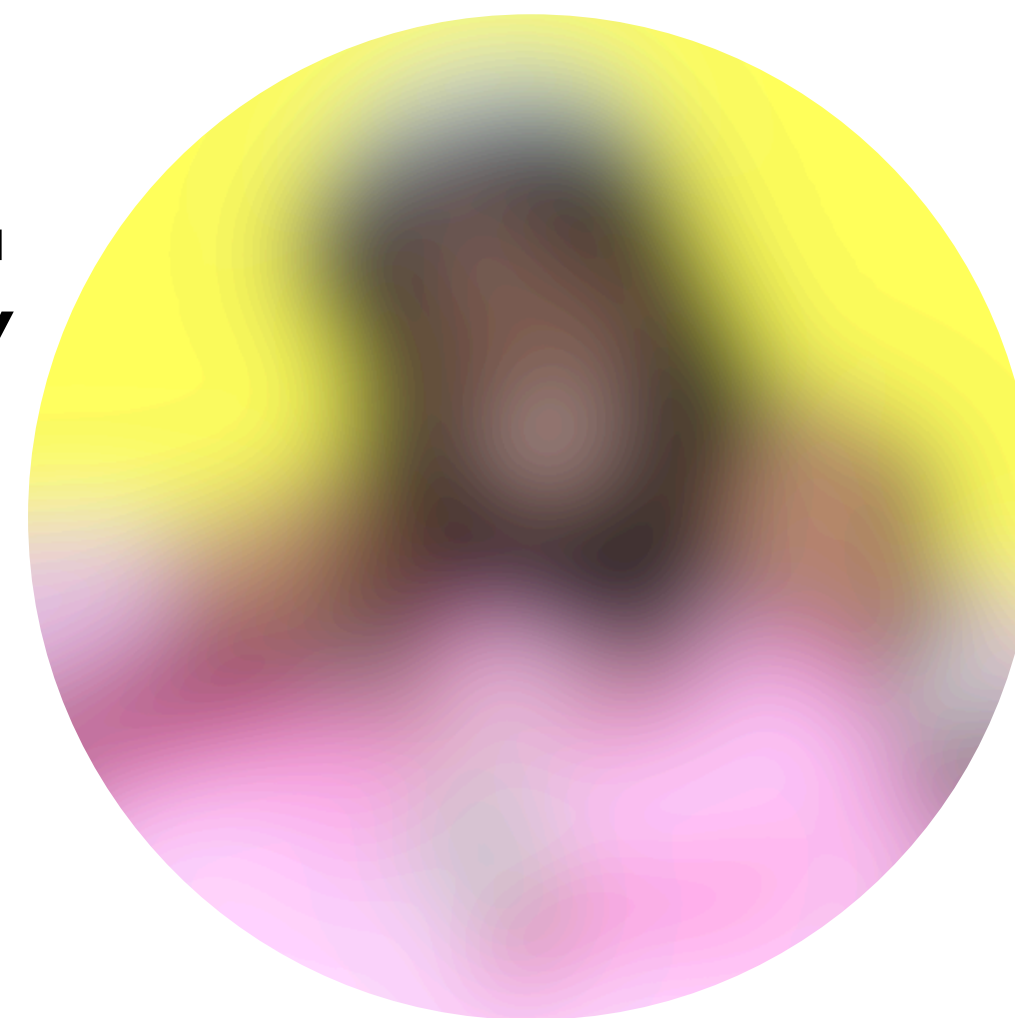
How Do You Write a Biography?

- **Introduce yourself.**
 - Include your first and last name, your grade and high school, and where you're from.
- **Share academic and professional background.**
 - Include favorite subject or academic strengths and achievements from school like honor class, honor roll, attendance awards, and jobs or past summer jobs.
- **Highlight extracurricular activities.**
 - This includes any sports, clubs, or organizations you're apart of both at and outside of school.
- **Discuss your interests and hobbies.**
 - Include things you like to do when you're not at school. Try not to repeat extracurricular activities.
- **Share your future plans or goals.**
 - Include colleges, careers, entrepreneurial goals, personal goals as well.

Examples - Guess Who

[First Name and Last Name] is a popular American content creator, YouTuber, and Twitch streamer known for his energetic personality and entertaining content. Born on December 16, 2001, in New York, they gained fame through their comedic skits on YouTube before transitioning to live streaming on Twitch. Their streams feature a mix of gaming, reaction videos, and high-energy interactions with fans and celebrity guests. **[First Name]**'s charisma and humor have helped him build a massive following, making him one of the most-watched streamers on Twitch.

Beyond their streaming career, **[First Name and Last Name]** has collaborated with major influencers, artists, and brands, further solidifying his status in the digital entertainment space. In 2023, they made history as the most-subscribed Twitch streamer during a record-breaking "subathon." Their influence extends beyond gaming, as they frequently engage in viral challenges, music releases, and philanthropy. With their relentless drive and creativity, **[First Name]** continues to shape the landscape of online entertainment.



Examples - Guess Who

Kai Cenat is a popular American content creator, YouTuber, and Twitch streamer known for his energetic personality and entertaining content. Born on December 16, 2001, in New York, he gained fame through their comedic skits on YouTube before transitioning to live streaming on Twitch. His streams feature a mix of gaming, reaction videos, and high-energy interactions with fans and celebrity guests. Kai's charisma and humor have helped him build a massive following, making him one of the most-watched streamers on Twitch.

Beyond his streaming career, Kai Cenat has collaborated with major influencers, artists, and brands, further solidifying his status in the digital entertainment space. In 2023, he made history as the most-subscribed Twitch streamer during a record-breaking "subathon." His influence extends beyond gaming, as he frequently engages in viral challenges, music releases, and philanthropy. With his relentless drive and creativity, Kai continues to shape the landscape of online entertainment.



Examples - Guess Who

[First Name aand Last Name], professional basketball player, known for her dominant presence on the court was born on May 6, 2002. “The Bayou Barbie” originally from Baltimore, Maryland, played college basketball at LSU, where she helped lead the Tigers to a national championship in 2023. A versatile forward, **[Last Name]** was selected as the 7th overall pick in the 2024 WNBA Draft by the Chicago Sky. Since joining the Women’s National Basketball Association (WNBA), she has made an immediate impact with her elite rebounding, defensive intensity, and scoring ability, earning multiple Rookie of the Month honors and establishing herself as one of the league’s most promising young talents.

As she continues to develop her game, **[Last Name]** is poised to be a major force in the WNBA for years to come, inspiring the next generation of players with her skill, determination, and leadership. Off the court, **[First Name]** is a vocal advocate for women’s basketball, using her platform to push for greater visibility and support for the sport. Her confident personality and engaging social media presence have made her one of the most marketable athletes in the league.



Examples - Guess Who

Angel Reese, professional basketball player, known for her dominant presence on the court was born on May 6, 2002. “The Bayou Barbie” originally from Baltimore, Maryland, played college basketball at LSU, where she helped lead the Tigers to a national championship in 2023. A versatile forward, Reese was selected as the 7th overall pick in the 2024 WNBA Draft by the Chicago Sky. Since joining the Women’s National Basketball Association (WNBA), she has made an immediate impact with her elite rebounding, defensive intensity, and scoring ability, earning multiple Rookie of the Month honors and establishing herself as one of the league’s most promising young talents.

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Biography Revision Exercise

Each group will receive a short, poorly written biography along with a detailed profile about the person. Read both carefully.

Discuss what's missing or what could be improved. Consider details like achievements, personality, goals, and structure.



Work together to rewrite the bio, making it more engaging, detailed, and professional. Keep it clear and concise!

Each group will share their improved biography. Be ready to explain the changes you made and why they make the bio stronger!

DO's

- Write in third person with a professional tone
- Show personality
- Tell a story
- Brag (this is not the time to be humble)
- Have a healthy balance of using pronouns vs. your name
- Use your last name to refer to yourself
- Quantify achievements (example: I helped 30 seniors cross the street)

DON'Ts

- Say "I"
- Overuse contractions like "don't," "can't," "wouldn't"
- Share private information like where you live or where your parents work
- Speak casually
- Use slang or abbreviation
- Bring attention to things you're lacking

Group 1

Jordan Taylor (Basketball Player & Leader)

- **Profile**

- **Age: 17, Senior at Lincoln High School**
- **Hobbies & Interests: Basketball, volunteering at an animal shelter, photography**
- **Extracurriculars: Captain of the varsity basketball team, Student Government, yearbook photographer**
- **Achievements: Led team to regional championship, 3.8 GPA, organized a fundraiser for shelters**
- **Future Goals: Major in sports management or business, work in professional sports**

- **Biography**

- **My name is Jordan, and I'm 17 years old. I go to Lincoln High School, where I play basketball. I also take pictures for the yearbook. My grades are pretty good, and I try to help out when I can. I think I want to go to college, but I'm not really sure what I want to do yet. I guess I just want a good job in the future.**

Group 2

Ava Martinez (Aspiring Artist & Volunteer)

- **Profile**

- **Age: 16, Junior at Oakwood High School**
- **Hobbies & Interests: Drawing, painting, digital art, playing the violin**
- **Extracurriculars: Art Club president, performs at school concerts, volunteers at an after-school program for kids**
- **Achievements: Won a regional art competition, helped design a mural for her community center**
- **Future Goals: Attend an art school, become a professional illustrator or animator**

- **Biography**

- **Ava Martinez is a junior at Oakwood High School. She enjoys art and music and spends most of her free time drawing or playing the violin. She is a member of the Art Club and occasionally helps with community service projects. Ava does well in school, but is more focused on creative activities. She hopes to have a career in art one day but isn't sure what that will look like yet.**

Group 3

Marcus Johnson (STEM Enthusiast & Robotics Captain)

- **Profile**

- **Age: 17, Senior at Westview High School**
- **Hobbies & Interests: Robotics, coding, space exploration**
- **Extracurriculars: Captain of the Robotics Team, Science Olympiad, summer internship at a tech company**
- **Achievements: Helped design a robot that won first place in a state competition, developed an app for his school's tutoring program**
- **Future Goals: Study computer engineering, work for NASA or a major tech company**

- **Biography**

- **Hey, I'm Marcus. I like science and technology, and I do robotics at school. I've been part of a few competitions, and I think they're fun. I also learned a little about coding. In the future, I want to do something with technology, maybe engineering. I don't know exactly what yet, but I know I like working with robots and computers.**

Group 4

Ryan Carter (Aspiring Entrepreneur & Content Creator)

- **Profile**

- **Age: 16, Junior at Crestwood High School**
- **Hobbies & Interests: Cooking, making YouTube and TikTok videos, personal finance, business**
- **Extracurriculars: Runs a small online food blog, participates in the Business Club, mentors younger students on starting side hustles**
- **Achievements: Won a local business pitch competition, started a small catering service for family events, gained 10K+ followers on social media for cooking content**
- **Future Goals: Start his own business in food or content creation, go to college for business or culinary arts**

- **Biography**

- **Ryan Carter is a junior at Crestwood High School who likes cooking and making videos. He sometimes posts his recipes online and hopes to start a business one day. He is interested in learning more about business and finance but isn't sure what he wants to do yet. Ryan enjoys school and tries to take in as much as he can. He knows he wants to be successful in the future, but hasn't decided exactly how.**

Real Life Example

Meet Kenneth Goins, a versatile professional with a flair for optimizing systems and a passion for the finer things in life. Hailing from Washington, DC, Kenneth's journey is a fusion of tech-savvy expertise and creative exploration.

With previous experience at Amazon in their Global Finance & Technology division and 9 years at the State Department as a Senior Business Analyst/Consultant, Kenneth has honed his skills in IT application analysis and acquisition management. But outside of his professional endeavors, Kenneth is a sports enthusiast, music aficionado, and fitness fanatic. You'll often find him catching a game, cycling through city streets, or hitting the gym. He's also an avid nature lover, finding solace and inspiration in the great outdoors.

In addition to his eclectic hobbies, Kenneth has a knack for drawing and crafting eye-catching visuals.

Whether he's tweaking pixels or sketching new designs, Kenneth's creativity knows no bounds.

Armed with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Frostburg State University, Kenneth is gearing up to pursue his MBA to further enhance his skills and broaden his horizons. Ready to embark on new adventures and blend his love for technology, creativity, and exploration, Kenneth is poised to make his mark wherever life leads him.

Criteria for Your Biography

- Use a maximum of 175 words.
- The first draft must be completed and approved by parent or guardian by February 27, 5 pm (Scan QR code below for approval form). Approval form should be emailed to Kenneth Goins at kennth.goins@pgparks.com.
- The Public Affairs Subcommittee will set up office hours to provide feedback and assistance, if needed.



Let's Get Started...

- 1. What are my key personal details and interests?**
- 2. What are my biggest achievements in school or extracurricular activities?**
- 3. What leadership roles or special projects have I been involved in?**
- 4. What are my future goals and how do my current activities support them?**
- 5. What makes me unique or sets me apart from others?**
- 6. What would your close friends and family say about you?**