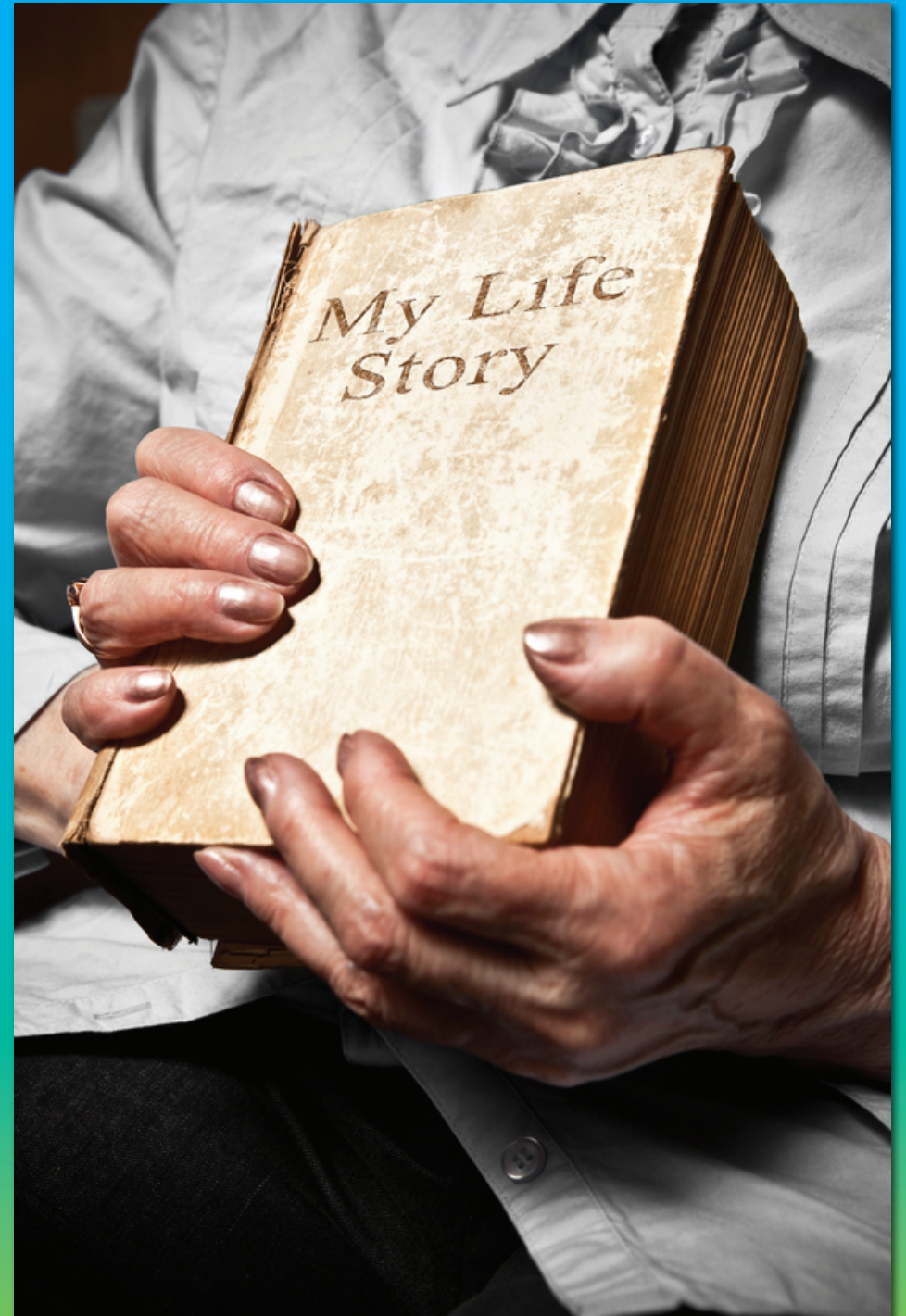


# **WRITING A BIOGRAPHY**

## **Purpose:**

*To provide details of a person's life in an informative and entertaining manner.*

Study***ladder***



# *Types of Biographies:*

## *Biography*

*An author's account of another person's life.*

## *Autobiography*

*An account of the author's own life.*

## *Historical Biography*

*A biography about a person's life, with particular attention to historical events.*

## *Fictional Biography*

*A made-up biography about a fictional person's life.*

## *Memoir*

*A narrative written by the author about important events that shaped their own life.*

# **Structure:**

## **1) Orientation:**

*The introduction to a biography gives background information about the person. It tells the reader why the person is noteworthy and should have a biography written about them.*

## **Language Features:**

- \* The orientation should grab the reader's attention.*
- \* It should answer the questions of:  
who, what, where, when and how.*

## **2) Series of Events:**

*The main body of your writing should describe significant events that occurred in the person's life. These events need to be written in chronological order (order of time).*

## **Language Features:**

- \* Use third person and past tense.**
- \* Use capital letters for names of people and places.**
- \* Use time connectives.**
- \* Use action verbs.**
- \* Use a variety of sentence structures.**
- \* Language should keep the reader's interest.**

### **3) Reorientation:**

*The reorientation should summarise the person's life. It should remind the reader of the person's achievements and the impact the person has made on society. The author can add a personal comment in the reorientation.*

### **Language Features:**

- \* Use emotive language.***
- \* The reorientation should leave the reader with a feeling that they know the person and value their achievements.***

# Questions to consider:

*What makes the person interesting or special?*

*What events shaped the person's life?*

*What were the person's achievements?*

*Did the person overcome obstacles in their life?*

*What adjectives best describe the person?*

*What are some examples that demonstrate these qualities?*

*What effects did the person's life have on others?*

*What effects did the person's life have on the world?*

*How is the world a better/worse place because of the person?*

