

Features of an Autobiography

Purpose:

to give an account of your life so far

Tense:

written in the past tense but closing statements may use present/future tense

Structure:

Opens with an attention-grabbing introduction to make the audience want to read on

Events are written in chronological order

Early memories, family, home and influences help to make sense of events which happen later

Factual anecdotal writing – telling a story

Includes relevant photos with captions for interest

Closing statements include comments on your life now, reflections on some key events, hopes for the future

Include:

positive and negative experiences and how they shaped your life; beliefs, values, feelings and opinions

Include:

precise dates and locations; named individuals who have influenced you; achievements and experiences

Include adverbials of time, place, number:

later; that year; nearby; opposite; often; always

Include time conjunctions:

then; after that; this; firstly; whenever; in the end; on another occasion

Include adverbials:

accordingly; consequently; therefore; hence; as a result

