Name: MS. CARSO'S SAMPLE

Freytag's Pyramid

Exposition—should include characters, setting, and main conflict

Snapshot #1: The summer breeze wafted through my hair as I flip-flopped away from mine, my way back from Carrie's house. Even though her house was only two walking alone was sweet freedom. I was a kindergarten maverick.

Snapshot #2: The silver glint of the garage door lifting caught my eye.

1. The garage door opened.
2. I saw a flash of fur.
3. Farah was a small dog, but was mean.
4. She had yellow fur and a pink nose.

Snapshot #3: Her ratty ears whipped behind her as she barreled forward, hatred in her eyes.

Thoughtshot #1: What could it hurt? I could get home sooner, and no one would have to know.

Thoughtshot #2: No! The devil dog! All I could think was run!

Thoughtshot #3: If only I could make it to my yard, I would be safe.

Character

Setting

Conflict

1. One time I was coming home from my friend's house.
2. Since I was in kindergarten, it was one of the first times I got to walk on my own in the neighborhood.
3. It was summer and I was wearing shorts and sandals.
4. I was walking across the neighbor's backyard.
5. I wasn't supposed to be there, but I took a short cut.

Middle—Climax (highest point of action)

(at least three events—circle the climax)

1. Farah started to chase me down.
2. I almost made it to my backyard, but Farah got me before I got there.
3. And then Farah tackled me to the ground.
4. She bit me on the inner thigh.

Thoughtshot #4: My feet slipped from under me while I crashed to the ground, flat on back.

Snapshot #4: My dad saw what was happening from the yard and came and picked me up.

1. My dad saw what was happening from the yard and came and picked me up.
2. He carried me inside bride style.
3. I was crying and really freaking out.
4. I had a bruise and two puncture marks on my leg.

Falling Action—winding down of story

(at least three events)

Resolution/moral: the end of the story

Moral: lesson learned should be general

1. My dad put an ice pack on my leg and gave me a cherry popsicle because I was so upset.
2. I never wanted to see Farah again.

MORAL:
Better safe than sorry.

Denouement