



**NSLI**  
**FOR YOUTH**  
INTERACTIVE

## **NSLI-Y Interactive Story Template**

NSLI-Y Interactive stories often, but do not have to, center around one concrete program experience that led to a particular insight, had an impact on their lives, or a change the writer experienced as a result of the NSLI-Y program. The template below centers around sharing a concrete experience, but you are welcome to substitute for any program aspect you wish to share about. You do not need to answer any or all of these questions, but you may address them, or a story prompt, as a means to help guide you as you craft your NSLI-Y Interactive story.

Introduction [2-3 sentences]:

- What experience or program aspect are you writing about?
- Why do you want to share it?
- What can the reader learn from it?

[You may want to begin with a “hook” to get your readers attention. This can be, but does not always have to be, a relevant quote, an interesting story or anecdote, or a question that you are addressing with your story.]

Body 1 [4-7 sentences]:

- How did this experience occur?
  - What were you doing?
  - Where were you?
  - Who were you with?
  - What led up to the experience?

[Think about vivid details to bring this experience to life for your reader. Can you remember some dialog or specific conversations from that experience? Can you recall the weather that day? Are there any other details you want to talk about?]

Body 2 [4-7 sentences]:

- How and why did you change?
- What impact did the experience have on you?
- What insight did this experience lead you to?

[Think about what you were like before this experience, what your initial thoughts, perceptions, and goals were. What are you like now? What did you learn from this experience about yourself, your study habits, your goals, your interests, your host country and community, your home community, etc.?]

Conclusion: [2-3 sentences]:

- Why was this experience important to you?
- What do you hope others will take away from you sharing your experience?

[You may want to return to or mention any anecdote or question you posed in your introduction. You may also want to include any relevant advice gleaned from your experience that you think could be of use to future participants as a way to wrap up your story by engaging with the readers.]