Dear ________________,

During the next few weeks, our class will be working on Narrative Writing at the Advanced Level. A narrative is a story, and the students will be learning to write several types of stories, including a hero quest and historical fiction. Besides learning to write stories, the students will be learning important language arts skills, such as rules for grammar, punctuation, and capitalization.

Here are some things you and your child can do at home:

1. Talk about your favorite fiction books or authors with your child. Then ask your child to tell you about his or her favorite fiction books or authors. Discuss how your interests are the same and/or different.

2. Your child will be writing some stories at school and taking them home. Ask your child to read them to you. Praise your child’s writing, pointing out parts you think are especially good. Ask your child to share the stories with other family members. Talk about other stories your child might write.

3. Visit the library to select books to take home to read. Encourage your child to look for books by his or her favorite author or on a favorite topic. Your librarian can help you use the library’s catalog system to find books you want.

4. Share your favorite books with your child. Read favorite parts of one of the books aloud. Then have your child read favorite parts of a book to you. Talk about why these stories are favorites. What does the author do to interest the reader in the stories? Why are the stories exciting?

5. Provide a notebook in which your child can write stories or record ideas for future stories. When something special, exciting, or unusual happens, remind your child that the event could become an interesting story.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments about the writing we’re doing at school, please feel free to call me or meet with me.

Your child’s teacher,