A MEMORY I LOVE

Travel • Childhood • A Person • A Celebration • A Funny Moment

Your life already gives you something worth saying in English.

YOUR GOAL

Tell a short memory so another person can picture it, follow what happened, and understand why it matters to you.

BEFORE CLASS — 5 MINUTES

Do not write your whole story. You are preparing ideas, not a speech. No memorizing, and try not to translate a complete paragraph.

1 **Choose a memory**
Pick ONE memory you enjoy remembering: a trip, childhood moment, person, celebration, or funny moment.

2 **Save 5 clues**
Write only keywords: where/when • who • what happened • feeling • why you remember it.

3 **Say it once**
Look at your keywords and try to explain the memory aloud for about 30 seconds. Keep going even if the English is not perfect.

Example — keywords only: grandmother • summer • mango tree • fell down • laughed

STORY TOOLKIT

START THE MEMORY

I remember…
This reminds me of…
I was about ___ years old.
It happened when…

MOVE THE STORY

One day…
At first…
Then…
A little later…
Suddenly…
In the end…

SHOW THE FEELING

I was so…
I couldn't believe it.
We couldn't stop laughing.
I felt…
I was surprised because…

SAY WHY IT MATTERS

What I remember most is…
The best part was…
That moment taught me…
I'll never forget…

LISTEN LIKE A STORYTELLER

FIRST LISTEN Don't read or take notes. Just create the movie in your head.

SECOND LISTEN Listen for expressions that tell you when something happened, what changed, and how the speaker felt.

While you listen, think: What happened? • Why does this person still smile about it?

AUDIO SCRIPT — A Memory I Still Smile About

I remember one summer when I was about eleven years old. My family and I were visiting my aunt, and one afternoon we decided to have a picnic near a small lake. At first, everything was perfect. We had food, music, and way too many snacks.

Then my cousin had an idea. He found an old inflatable boat and convinced me to get in with him. I was nervous, but I wanted to look brave, so I said yes. We pushed away from the shore and, for about thirty seconds, we felt like professional explorers.

Suddenly, the boat started losing air. Very slowly. My cousin looked at me, I looked at him, and neither of us said anything. Then we both started paddling with our hands as fast as we could. By the time we got back, half the boat was underwater and everyone on the shore was laughing.

I was embarrassed for maybe five seconds, and then I couldn't stop laughing too. What I remember most isn't the boat. It's my whole family laughing together and my aunt trying to take a picture while we were completely soaked. I'll never forget that afternoon because nothing important happened, but somehow it became one of those small memories that still makes me smile.

Notice these expressions: I remember… • At first… • Then… • Suddenly… • I couldn't stop laughing… • What I remember most is… • I'll never forget…

CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING

1. How old was the speaker?
2. What did the speaker and the cousin decide to do?
3. What unexpected problem happened?
4. How did the speaker feel at first? How did that feeling change?
5. What does the speaker remember most — and why?

YOUR STORY IN CLASS

A MEMORY I LOVE — 60–90 seconds

Where and when were you?
Who was there?
What happened?
How did you feel?
Why do you still remember it?

Keywords only. Don’t write the story.

BE A GOOD LISTENER TOO

No way! • Really? • What happened next? • How did you feel? • That reminds me of…

AFTER CLASS — KEEP IT ALIVE

Choose a different memory and save only 3 clues in English. Later, use those three words to rebuild the story aloud. Don’t prepare a paragraph.

Example: grandmother • summer • mango tree

You don’t need perfect English to tell a good story.
You need a story worth sharing — and the courage to start.