**Difference Between Biography, Autobiography, and Memoir**

Biography, [autobiography](https://literarydevices.net/autobiography/), and [memoir](https://literarydevices.net/memoir/) are the three main forms used to tell the story of a person’s life. Though there are similarities between these forms, they have distinct differences in terms of the writing, [style](https://literarydevices.net/style/), and purpose.

A biography is an informational [narrative](https://literarydevices.net/narrative/) and account of the life history of an individual person, written by someone who is not the subject of the biography. An autobiography is the story of an individual’s life, written by that individual. In general, an autobiography is presented chronologically with a focus on key events in the person’s life. Since the writer is the subject of an autobiography, it’s written in the first person and considered more [subjective](https://literarydevices.net/subjective/) than objective, like a biography. In addition, autobiographies are often written late in the person’s life to present their life experiences, challenges, achievements, viewpoints, etc., across time.

[Memoir](https://literarydevices.net/memoir/) refers to a written collection of a person’s significant memories, written by that person. Memoir doesn’t generally include biographical information or chronological events unless it’s relevant to the story being presented. The purpose of memoir is reflection and an intention to share a meaningful story as a means of creating an emotional connection with the reader. Memoirs are often presented in a narrative style that is both entertaining and thought-provoking.