**First 100 Words Feature Profile Assignment**

**Sample Beginning (97 words):**

Another ski-laden car stopped to ask where the nearest slopes were. Ninety-five degrees outside, not a mountain for miles, and the Americans assumed once they crossed the bridge into Canada they could start skiing.

The nearest mountains were 15 hours north of this small Canadian border town, but Americans still asked Sadie Jenkins for directions when they passed by the summer camp where she worked.

As a girl who grew up in the Canadian border town of Sarnia, Ontario, Jenkins has encountered many American-Canadian stereotypes. Jenkins considers Canadians less loud and opinionated. “They’re the fence post sitters.”

**Your Task:** Interview your partner and write the first 100 words of a profile story on your partner. Your beginning will be critiqued by the class.

**Pointers for Success:**

* Take your time writing the interview questions.
* Listen carefully to the answers so you can develop depth instead of breadth. Be an avid listener; listen for anecdotes and ask follow-up questions to develop them into stories.
* Assume you will use perhaps five percent of the information from the interview in your story beginning. Pick the most interesting and then build a compelling story that has a clear angle from this information.
* You may not go over 100 words.
* Avoid laundry lists of interests at all costs.