



Narrative Writing Rubric

Grade 8

	1 Beginning	2 Approaching	3 Developing	4 Proficient	5 Advanced
Setting, POV, Characters Weight: 4x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This narrative does not yet establish the context, point of view, narrator, or characters/people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This narrative establishes a context, point of view, narrator, and characters/people, but readers would benefit from additional details about one or more of these aspects of the story. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This narrative clearly establishes a well-developed context and a point of view and skillfully introduces a narrator and/or characters/people.
Narrative Techniques Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece of writing does not yet include narrative techniques such as dialogue, pacing, description, or reflection. The narrative does not yet use precise, descriptive, or sensory details to capture action or convey experiences and events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece of writing includes some narrative techniques such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, but readers could benefit from additional details to develop the experiences, events, and/or characters/people. Some precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language are used, but readers would benefit from additional precise, descriptive, or sensory language to capture the action and convey the story. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece of writing includes a variety of narrative techniques such as engaging dialogue, strategic pacing, vivid descriptions, and effective reflection to develop experiences, events, and/or characters/people. This narrative uses precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events vividly and thoroughly.
Theme/Message Weight: 4x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A purpose, theme, or message of the narrative is not yet clear to readers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Readers would benefit from additional development that would make the purpose, theme, or message clear. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clear purpose, theme, or message is shared and developed throughout the story.
Coherence (Organization) Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The narrative does not yet have a clear sequence of connected experiences or events. This narrative does not yet have a sense of a beginning, middle, or end. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The narrative presents a sequence of events and some transitional words, but readers would benefit from additional details or a variety of words to create a more logical or more natural sequence and clarify the shifts in time and place and the relationships among events. This narrative has some parts of a beginning, middle, and end, but some of the elements would benefit from more development and a sense of closure in the conclusion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The narrative guides readers through a logical and naturally connected sequence of events using a variety of transitional words to clarify the order of events, shifts in setting, and relationships among events. This narrative has an engaging beginning, middle, and end with an effective sense of closure that reflects logically on the story's events.
Audience Appeal Weight: 2x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The narrative does not yet demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Many significant errors in conventions show the need for additional support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The narrative demonstrates a partial command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Errors in conventions affect the overall meaning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This narrative demonstrates a skillful command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. It contains few or no errors in conventions.