

NARRATIVE RUBRIC

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Organization	Clear beginning, middle, end Sequence of events unfolds naturally Consistent use of a variety of transitional strategies	Beginning, middle, end Sequence is loosely connected Some transitional strategies	Basic beginning, middle, end Confusing in parts and hard to follow Few, if any, transitional strategies	No story sequence Events are random and hard to follow No transitional strategies
Entertaining Beginning	Begins using a variety of strategies to establish the character, setting and story purpose Draws the reader immediately into the story and compels them to read on	Begins using a simple strategy to establish the character, setting and story purpose Brief and may not compel the reader to read on	Begins in a didactic way Does not compel the reader to read on	Lacks an entertaining beginning Does not compel the reader to read on
Elaborative Detail	Creative descriptive and sensory details "Shows" character emotion Uses a variety of detail generating questions with story critical characters, settings, and objects Interesting words and sentence variety	Some specific descriptive and sensory details "Shows" character emotion Uses some detail generating questions with story critical characters, settings, and objects Some sentence variety	Few relevant descriptive and sensory details "Tells" character emotion Does not focus on story critical characters, settings, and objects Little variety in sentence structure	Lacks descriptive and sensory details Shows no character emotion Does not focus on story critical characters, settings, and objects Little or no variety in sentence structure
Suspense	Skillfully provides sense of anticipation or tension using red flag words/ phrases and story questions	Some sense of anticipation or tension using red flag words/ phrases and story questions	Little sense of anticipation or tension using red flag words/ phrases and story questions	Lacks a sense of anticipation or tension
Main Event	Single, significant main event with a balanced mix of strategies Maintains focus Interesting word choice and sentence variety	Single, significant main event with some strategies Maintains focus Some interesting word choice and sentence variety	A series of actions or steps Lacks focus Weak word choice and little sentence variety	Uses a summary statement
Extended Ending	Skillful extended ending Strong sense of closure	Somewhat satisfying ending Sense of closure	Ends abruptly	No sense of closure
Vocabulary, fluency, mechanics	Precise and appropriate vocabulary Thorough understanding of mechanics with few errors in spelling, usage, punctuation, or capitalization Fluent response	Adequate vocabulary Average understanding of mechanics with adequate spelling, punctuation, capitalization, or usage Errors do not interfere with the readability	Simplistic and general vocabulary Incomplete understanding of mechanics with frequent errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization, or usage Errors affect the readability	Vague and inappropriate vocabulary Frequent errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization, or usage Difficult to read or understand