

6-Point Rubric for Narrative Writing

Use this rubric for guiding and rating your narrative writing.

Ideas

- 6 The writer relates an unforgettable experience using rich details.
- 5 The writer tells about an interesting experience. Great details are used.
- 4 The writer tells about an interesting experience. More details are needed.
- 3 The writer needs to focus on one experience. Some details do not relate to the story.
- 2 The writer needs to focus on one experience. Details are needed.
- 1 The writer needs to tell about an experience and use details.

Organization

- 6 The organization makes the narrative easy to read.
- 5 The narrative is well organized. Transitions are used well.
- 4 The narrative is well organized. Most of the transitions are helpful.
- 3 The order of events needs to be corrected. More helpful transitions are needed.
- 2 The beginning, middle, and ending all run together. The order is unclear.
- 1 The narrative needs to be organized.

Voice

- 6 The writer's voice helps to create an unforgettable experience.
- 5 The writer's voice sounds natural and creates interest in the story. Dialogue is used.
- 4 The writer's voice creates interest in the story. More dialogue is needed.
- 3 The writer's voice can be heard. More dialogue is needed.
- 2 The voice needs is weak. Dialogue is needed.
- 1 The writer's voice seems uninterested.

Word Choice

- 6 The writer's exceptional word choice helps the writing come alive.
- 5 Strong nouns, verbs, and modifiers create clear, vivid pictures.
- 4 Modifiers are used. Stronger nouns and verbs would create clearer pictures.
- 3 Strong nouns and verbs are needed to create clear pictures.

- 2 Many general and overused words do not help the reader “see” the story.
- 1 The writing shows limited word choice or incorrect usage of words.

Sentence Fluency

- 6 The sentences are skillfully written and make the writing enjoyable to read.
- 5 The sentences show variety and are easy to read and understand.
- 4 The sentences are varied, but some could flow more smoothly.
- 3 A better variety of sentences is needed. Sentences do not read smoothly.
- 2 Incomplete and/or short sentences interrupt the flow of the story.
- 1 Poorly formed sentences make the story very difficult to read.

Conventions

- 6 Accurate use of conventions adds clarity to the writing.
- 5 The narrative has very few errors in spelling, punctuation, or grammar.
- 4 Some errors in spelling, punctuation, or grammar exist.
- 3 A number of errors could confuse the reader.
- 2 Many errors make the narrative hard to read.
- 1 Serious errors disrupt the narrative.