

Narrative Writing Rubric

8th Grade English Language Arts

Rubric Scoring Key	Fully meets (4) All criteria present in the writing	Mostly meets (3) Most criteria present, with some misunderstandings	Partially meets (2) Criteria attempted, but major misunderstandings	Does not meet yet (1) Criteria are not attempted or not enough evidence to rate
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Structure	Rubric Score	Notes
Event Sequence Includes all the key components of the narrative arc: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution	4 3 2 1	
Point of View Establishes and maintains a clear and purposeful perspective that engages and orients the reader and shapes the reader's interpretation of events and characters	4 3 2 1	
Setting Introduces and develops the setting with descriptive details that show when and where the story takes place. The development of the setting shapes the mood and meaning of the narrative and supports the development of the plot and characters	4 3 2 1	

Development	Rubric Score	Notes
Character(s) Introduces and develops one or more well-developed characters whose actions, thoughts, dialogue, descriptions, and reflections reveal complex traits, motivations, and growth that shape the plot and theme	4 3 2 1	
Plot Builds a natural and logical sequence of events; uses dialogue, pacing, and description to develop and resolve conflicts; concludes with a resolution that reflects the significance of the events and their impact on characters	4 3 2 1	

<p>Precise Language Uses precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture action and vividly convey experiences and events; explicitly indicates relationships among events; shows changes over time or across the narrative</p>	4 3 2 1	
<p>Dialogue Reveals inner thoughts, complex traits, motivations, and reflections to show characters' perspectives clearly over the course of the narrative</p>	4 3 2 1	

Language	Rubric Score	Notes
<p>Literary Devices Uses sensory and figurative language to enhance details and convey perspective; uses tone and connotation to enhance dialogue and description.</p>	4 3 2 1	
<p>Grammar Demonstrates consistent command of grade-level grammar and usage, including correct application of verb voice and mood.</p>	4 3 2 1	
<p>Conventions Uses correct capitalization, spelling, and punctuation conventions, including commas, dashes, or ellipses to signal a pause or break.</p>	4 3 2 1	