



Writes narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

	4 - Exceeds	3 - Proficient	2 - Approaching	1 - Beginning
Understanding	Connection to content or text enhances the narrative; may be insightful	Narrative is clearly connected to assigned content or text	Connections to assigned content or text may be awkward or vague	Connections to assigned content or text are missing or detract from the narrative
Organization/	Effectively orients the reader to	Engages and orients the reader by	Minimally establishes a	Does not establish a situation
Purpose	the characters and situation	setting out a problem, situation, or observation and its significance; establishing one or multiple points of view and introducing a narrator or characters	situation and a narrator/characters	and/or a narrator/characters
	Organizational structure contributes to the development of characters or events	Creates a smooth progression of experiences or events	Sequence of events is, at times, vague or unclear.	Sequence of events is illogical or confusing
	Transitional words and phrases are well chosen to create particular tone or outcome	Uses a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole and build toward a particular tone and outcome (e.g., sense of mystery, suspense, growth, or resolution)	Transitional words and phrases are present, but may be minimal, poorly chosen, or incorrectly used; tone may be inconsistent	Lack of transitional words and phrases causes confusion; tone may be inappropriate
	Creates a satisfying ending; may be insightful	Provides a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative	Closing is weak or confusing	May end abruptly
Elaboration	Effectively uses dialogue and	Uses narrative techniques such as	Use of narrative techniques	Use of narrative techniques is minimal
	description to develop experiences	dialogue, description, pacing,	does not develop experiences,	or absent

Note: Descriptors in **bold** are taken directly from the CCSS for this grade level. Some of the language used in this rubric has been adapted from the SBAC and PAARC rubrics.

	and events or show the response of characters to situations.	reflection, and multiple plot lines to develop experiences, events and/or characters and /or show the response of characters to situations.	events or characters; may detract from narrative focus	
	Use of concrete detail and sensory language enhances the narrative	Uses precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of experiences, events, setting, and/or characters	Uses a basic vocabulary	Uses a limited vocabulary
Conventions	Few, if any, errors in usage and sentence formation  Effective and consistent use of grade appropriate punctuation, capitalization, and spelling	Some errors in usage and sentence formation are present, but no systematic pattern of errors is displayed  Adequate use of grade appropriate punctuation, capitalization, and spelling	Frequent errors in usage may obscure meaning  Inconsistent use of grade appropriate punctuation, capitalization, and spelling	Errors in usage and/or punctuation, capitalization, and spelling are frequent and severe, and meaning is often obscured