Grade 7 Narrative Writing Rubric *DRAFT*

Vermont Writing Collaborative

Writes narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive 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/ Purpose	Effectively orients the reader to the characters and situation	**Engages and orients the reader by establishing a context and point of view, and introducing a narrator and/or characters**	Minimally establishes a situation and a narrator/characters	Does not establish a situation and/or a narrator/characters
	Organizational structure contributes to the development of characters or events	**Organizes an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically**	Sequence of events is, at times, vague or unclear.	Sequence of events is illogical or confusing
	Transitional words and phrases are well chosen	**Uses a variety of transitional words, phrases and clauses to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another**	Transitional words and phrases are present, but may be minimal, poorly chosen, or incorrectly used.	Lack of transitional words and phrases causes confusion
	Creates a satisfying ending	**Provides a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.**	Closing is weak or confusing	May end abruptly
Elaboration	Effectively uses dialogue and description to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations.	**Uses narrative techniques such as dialogue, description and pacing to develop experiences, events and/or characters** and /or show the response of characters to situations.	Use of narrative techniques does not develop experiences, events or characters; may detract from narrative focus	Use of narrative techniques is minimal or absent
	Use of concrete detail and sensory language enhances the narrative	**Uses precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and to**	Uses a basic vocabulary	Uses a limited vocabulary

*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.*

		convey experiences and events		
Conventions	Few, if any, errors in usage and sentence formation	Some errors in usage and sentence formation are present, but no systematic pattern of errors is displayed	Frequent errors in usage may obscure meaning	Errors in usage and/or punctuation, capitalization, and spelling are frequent and severe, and meaning is often obscured
	Effective and consistent use of grade appropriate punctuation, capitalization, and spelling	Adequate use of grade appropriate punctuation, capitalization, and spelling	Inconsistent use of grade appropriate punctuation, capitalization, and spelling	

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