



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/ Purpose	Effectively orients the reader to the characters and situation	Engages and orients the reader by setting out a problem, situation, or observation; establishing one or multiple points of view and introducing a narrator 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	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	Uses a variety of transitional words, phrases and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another, and show the relationship among experiences and events	Transitional words and phrases are present, but may be minimal, poorly chosen, or incorrectly used.	Lack of transitional words and phrases causes confusion
		Uses a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole		
	Creates a satisfying ending	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

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.

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
	and events or show the response of	reflection, and multiple plot lines	events or characters; may	
	characters to situations.	to develop experiences, events	detract from narrative focus	
		and/or characters and /or show		
		the response of characters to		
		situations.		
	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	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	