**Narrative Writing Rubric**

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|  | **5**  **Strong** | **4**  **Proficient** | **3**  **Acceptable** | **2**  **Developing** | **1**  **Beginning** |
| **Ideas & Content** |    Exceptionally clear, focused, engaging with relevant, strong supporting detail. Includes original and thoughtful ideas. |    Clear, focused, creative ideas with appropriate detail |    Evident main idea with relevant support |    Main idea may be cloudy because supporting detail is too general or even off-topic |    Lacks central idea; development is minimal or non-existent |
| **Organization** |    Effectively organized in logical and creative manner. Varies organizational structure for creative effect.     Creative and engaging intro and conclusion |    Strong order and structure     Inviting intro and satisfying closure |    Organization is appropriate, but conventional     Attempt at introduction and conclusion |    Attempts at organization; may be a “list” of events     Beginning and ending not developed |    Lack of structure; disorganized and hard to follow     Missing or weak intro and conclusion |
| **Voice** |    Expressive, engaging, sincere     Skillfully connects with audience by sharing thoughts, feelings, inner conflict, and convictions.   * Develops ideas in a unique or unusual way |   Writer behind the words comes through- generates strong feeling, energy, and personality. |    Appropriate to audience and purpose     Evident care and commitment to topic |    Voice may be inappropriate or non-existent    Writing may seem mechanical |    Writing tends to be flat or stiff    Little or no hint of writer behind words |
| **Word Choice** |    Precise, carefully chosen vocabulary, which energizes the writing    Strong, fresh, vivid images   * Effectively uses figurative language. |    Descriptive, broad range of words   * Attempts to use figurative language. |    Language is functional and appropriate    Some interesting words are used to enhance meaning. |    Word choice may be correct, but there is little attempt at deliberate choice of words to enhance meaning. |    Word choice has not been considered and may often be inaccurate. |
| **Sentence Fluency** |    High degree of craftsmanship with a striking variety of complex sentence structures and types. |    Includes different kinds of sentences, with a variety of sentence lengths and beginnings to create fluidity. |    Generally in control    Some variety in length and structure |    Some awkward constructions with many similar patterns and beginnings.   * Some run-on/fragment sentences |    Sentence structure impedes readability    Frequent run-on/fragment sentences take away from the fluidity of the piece. |
| **Conventions** | * Uses conventions skillfully to enhance meaning and voice (conventional artistry). Strong control of standard conventions of writing, including internal punctuation, correctly spelling most words, and proper use of grammatical structures. |    Strong control of standard conventions of writing, including internal punctuation, correctly spelling most words, and proper use of grammatical structures; errors are few and minor     Takes some risks with conventional artistry |    Control of most writing conventions; errors are few and minor. |    Errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation sometimes interfere with understanding. |    Frequent significant errors can impede readability |