

**4 -Point  
Narrative  
Writing Rubric (Grades 3-8)**

Score	4	3	2	1
Purpose/Organization	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is fully sustained and the focus is clear and maintained throughout:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An effective plot helps to create a sense of unity and completeness</li> <li>• Effectively establishes and maintains setting, develops narrator/characters</li> <li>• Consistent use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas</li> <li>• Natural, logical sequence of events from beginning to end</li> <li>• Effective opening and closure for audience and purpose.</li> </ul>	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is adequately sustained and the focus is adequate and generally maintained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An evident plot helps to create a sense of unity and completeness though there may be minor flaws and some ideas may be loosely connected</li> <li>• Adequately maintains setting, develops narrator/characters</li> <li>• Adequate use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas</li> <li>• Adequate sequence of events from beginning to end</li> <li>• Adequate opening and closure for audience and purpose.</li> </ul>	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is somewhat sustained and may have an uneven focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There may be an inconsistent plot, and/or flaws may be evident</li> <li>• Unevenly or minimally establishes a setting, develops narrator and/or characters</li> <li>• Uneven use of appropriate transitional strategies and/or little variety</li> <li>• Weak or uneven sequence of events</li> <li>• Opening and closure, if present, are weak</li> </ul>	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, may be maintained but may provide little or no focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is little or no discernible plot or there may just be a series of events</li> <li>• May be brief or there is little to no attempt to establish a setting, narrator and/or characters</li> <li>• Few or no appropriate transitional strategies may be evident</li> <li>• Little or no organization of an event sequence; frequent extraneous ideas and/or a major drift may be evident</li> <li>• Opening and/or closure may be missing.</li> </ul>

**4- Point  
Narrative  
Writing Rubric (Grades 3-8)**

Score	4	3	2	1
Development/Elaboration	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides thorough, effective elaboration using relevant details, dialogue, and description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experiences, characters, setting and events are clearly developed</li> <li>Connections to source materials enhance the narrative</li> <li>Effective use of a variety of narrative techniques to develop experiences/events and show the responses of characters to situations</li> <li>Effective use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that clearly advances the purpose</li> <li>Effective, appropriate style enhances the narration</li> </ul>	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides adequate elaboration using details, dialogue, and description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experiences, characters, setting, and events are adequately developed</li> <li>Connections to source materials contribute to the narrative</li> <li>Adequate use of a variety of narrative techniques to develop experiences/events and/or show the responses of characters to situations</li> <li>Adequate use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that generally advances the purpose</li> <li>Generally appropriate style is evident</li> </ul>	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides uneven, cursory elaboration using partial and uneven details, dialogue, and description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experiences, characters, setting, and events are unevenly developed</li> <li>Connections to source materials may be ineffective, awkward or interfere with the narrative</li> <li>Narrative techniques are uneven and inconsistent</li> <li>Partial or weak use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that may not advance the purpose</li> <li>Inconsistent or weak attempt to create appropriate style</li> </ul>	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides minimal elaboration using few or no details, dialogue, and/or description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experiences, characters, setting, and events may be vague, lack clarity or confusing</li> <li>Connections to source materials, if evident, may detract from the narrative</li> <li>Use of narrative techniques may be minimal, absent, incorrect, or irrelevant</li> <li>May have little or no use of sensory, concrete, or figurative language; language does not advance and may interfere with the purpose</li> <li>Little or no evidence of appropriate style</li> </ul>

**2- Point  
Narrative  
Writing Rubric (Grades 3-8)**

Score	2	1	0
<b>Conventions</b>	<p>The response demonstrates an adequate command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li> </ul>	<p>The response demonstrates a partial command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li> </ul>	<p>The response demonstrates little or no command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrequent use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li> </ul>

**Holistic Scoring:**

- o **Variety:** A range of errors includes formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling
- o **Severity:** Basic errors are more heavily weighted than higher-level errors.
- o **Density:** The proportion of errors to the amount of writing done well. This includes the ratio of errors to the length of the piece.