

Narrative Rubric

Name: _____

Title of Piece: _____

Theme: _____

Characteristic(s) of Effective Writing: _____

Grade/Comments:

| | |
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| <p style="text-align: center;">5 "A+" 96-100</p> | <p>A "5" meets all of the requirements of a "4," but it also appeals to the reader because...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the piece reveals something deep about the main character, their culture or their identity • it evokes emotion (humor, anger, pain, joy, fear) • it incorporates a number of literary techniques with ease • vocabulary words are incorporated naturally • motifs or symbolism support the theme • clear mastery of language is apparent |
| <p style="text-align: center;">4 "A" 95</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the entire piece builds up to and supports the intended theme • the reader learns more about the writer's or narrator's or character's life or personality • strong first sentence (<i>in medias res</i>) grabs the reader's attention • selection of point of view enhances the story • a "slice of life" is revealed; narrative centers around a short period of time • imagery is abundant, original, and incorporates a variety of senses ("show, don't tell") • author uses sophisticated sentence constructions, a varied word choice, and rich details • organization is logical and flows naturally • characteristics of effective writing have been integrated effectively • title is meaningful and thought-provoking • piece reveals evidence of serious revision, polishing and editing • drafts show support group comments • author provides evidence of two macro edits and two micro edits • self-evaluation rubric is thorough • well-written author's note is attached • writing has been proofread and corrected for mechanics • final piece follows correct formatting conventions (12 point font, double spaced) |
| <p style="text-align: center;">3 "B" 85</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the piece reveals but does not adequately support a theme • the reader learns about a specific event, but not necessarily about the characters • the piece is written in first person point of view • the narrative is overly broad in timeline or scope (includes <i>more</i> than a "slice of life") • description includes some "showing" imagery and some "telling" details • writer uses proper sentence construction (avoids run-ons and fragmented sentences) • storyline may contain lapses or digressions • characteristics of effective writing have been attempted • narrative contains some mechanical errors • final product may not include all components of the writing process (see criteria for a "4") • final product may not follow correct formatting conventions |
| <p style="text-align: center;">2 "C" 75</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a theme is not apparent • the piece fails to connect the reader with the author • narrative may include distracting shifts in point of view • narrative may lack specific, concrete details • description merely "tells" the story without incorporating sensory details • organizational errors detract from the meaning or flow • sentence structure may be too simplistic • setting or characters may be underdeveloped • word choice may be awkward, simplistic, or cliché • final product may be missing several components of the writing process |
| <p style="text-align: center;">1 "Yikes" 0-65</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • serious mechanical errors detract from understanding • sentence meaning is unclear • piece exhibits little or no attempt to incorporate writing techniques • piece fails to meet length requirements • topic may be inappropriate for audience • final product reveals little or no evidence of the writing process |