

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative  
Performance Task Writing Rubric (Grades 6–8)**



Score: \_\_\_\_/10

| __/4                           | 4   | 3   | 2   | 1  | NS  |
|--------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|
| <b>Organization/Purpose</b>    | <p><b>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is fully sustained and the focus is clear and maintained throughout:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an effective plot helps to create a sense of unity and completeness</li> <li>effectively establishes a setting, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</li> <li>consistent use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas; strong connection 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><b>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is adequately sustained, and the focus is adequate and generally maintained:</b></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 establishes a setting, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</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><b>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is somewhat sustained and may have an uneven focus:</b></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, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</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><b>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, may be maintained but may provide little or no focus:</b></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/characters, and/or point of view</li> <li>few or no appropriate transitional strategies may be evident and may cause confusion</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 or unsatisfactory</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insufficient (includes copied text)</li> <li>In a language other than English</li> <li>Off-topic</li> <li>Off-purpose</li> </ul> |
| <b>Development/Elaboration</b> | <p><b>The narrative, real or imagined, provides thorough, effective elaboration using relevant details, dialogue, and/or description:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting and/or events are clearly developed</li> <li>connections to source materials may enhance the narrative</li> <li>effective use of a variety of narrative techniques that advance the story or illustrate the experience</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><b>The narrative, real or imagined, provides adequate elaboration using details, dialogue, and/or description:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting, and/or events are adequately developed</li> <li>connections to source materials may contribute to the narrative</li> <li>adequate use of a variety of narrative techniques that generally advance the story or illustrate the experience</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><b>The narrative, real or imagined, provides uneven, cursory elaboration using partial and uneven details, dialogue, and/or description:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting, and/or events are unevenly developed</li> <li>connections to source materials may be ineffective, awkward, or vague but do not 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><b>The narrative, real or imagined, provides minimal elaboration using few or no details, dialogue, and/or description:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting, and/or 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>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insufficient (includes copied text)</li> <li>In a language other than English</li> <li>Off-topic</li> <li>Off-purpose</li> </ul> |
| <b>Conventions</b>             | <p><b>The response demonstrates an adequate command of conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adequate use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li> </ul>  | <p><b>The response demonstrates a partial command of conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>limited use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li> </ul>   | <p><b>The response demonstrates little or no command of conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>infrequent use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li> </ul>   |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insufficient (includes copied text)</li> <li>In a language other than English</li> <li>Off-topic</li> <li>Off-purpose</li> </ul> |

**Holistic Scoring: Variety**—a range of errors includes sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling; **Severity**—basic errors are more heavily weighted than higher-level errors; **Density**—the proportion of errors to the amount of writing done well (including ratio of errors to the length of the piece).