

**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"> • An effective plot helps to create a sense of unity and completeness • Effectively establishes and maintains setting, develops narrator/characters • Consistent use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas • Natural, logical sequence of events from beginning to end • Effective opening and closure for audience and purpose. 	<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"> • 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 • Adequately maintains setting, develops narrator/characters • Adequate use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas • Adequate sequence of events from beginning to end • Adequate opening and closure for audience and purpose. 	<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"> • There may be an inconsistent plot, and/or flaws may be evident • Unevenly or minimally establishes a setting, develops narrator and/or characters • Uneven use of appropriate transitional strategies and/or little variety • Weak or uneven sequence of events • Opening and closure, if present, are weak 	<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"> • There is little or no discernible plot or there may just be a series of events • May be brief or there is little to no attempt to establish a setting, narrator and/or characters • Few or no appropriate transitional strategies may be evident • Little or no organization of an event sequence; frequent extraneous ideas and/or a major drift may be evident • Opening and/or closure may be missing.

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

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

Holistic Scoring:

- **Variety:** A range of errors includes 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. This includes the ratio of errors to the length of the piece.