

Narrative Writing: Standards-Based Rubric

Use this rubric to assess your students' writing. Proficiency is aligned with **8th grade** standards for narrative writing.

	(1) Beginning	(2) Developing	(3) Proficient
Introduction	Some context is established; narrator and/or character(s) are introduced.	Context is established to orient the reader; narrator and/or character(s) are introduced.	Readers are engaged, and context and point of view are established effectively; narrator and/or character(s) are clearly introduced;
Organization	The sequence of events is loosely organized.	The sequence of events is organized, but doesn't always unfold naturally.	The sequence of events is organized and unfolds naturally and logically.
Technique	Few, if any, narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, or description, are used.	Some narrative techniques are used, but may be inconsistent or do not support the flow of the story.	Narrative techniques such as dialogue, description, pacing, and reflection are used effectively to develop experiences, events, and characters.
Transitions	Some transition words and phrases are used to manage the sequence of events, but are inconsistent.	A variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses are used to convey sequence and signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another.	A variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses are used to convey shifts from one event, time, or setting to another, and to show relationships among experiences and events.
Details	Few sensory details or examples of descriptive language are used; experiences and events are vague or flat.	Some details and descriptive language are used, but events and experiences in the story lack depth.	Precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language are effectively used to capture action and convey experiences and events.
Conclusion	The conclusion is related to the narrated experiences or events but does not follow directly.	The conclusion follows directly from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.	The conclusion logically follows from and reflects meaningfully on the narrated experiences or events.