Personal Narrative Rubric

Course: Writing An Effective Narrative Instructor: Mrs. Simpson

Student's Name ______

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Unsatisfactory
	(5pts)	(4pts)	(3pts)	(2pts)	(1pt)
Ideas & Content	 Writing is focused on a specific event or topic. Contains effective and appropriate details and dialogue for full understanding Writing demonstrates a sense of completeness. 	 Writing is mostly focused on the topic. Adequate details and dialogue are included to enhance understanding. Writing is mostly complete. 	 Writing is generally focused on the topic. Details and dialogue are underdeveloped, but understanding is attainable. Writing is somewhat complete. 	 Writing is slightly focused on the topic. Limited details and dialogue make understanding vague. Writing lacks a sense of completeness. 	 Writing is unclear and unfocused. Details and dialogue are not included and writing is lifeless. Writing is incomplete. Elements of writing are missing.
Organization	 Presents ideas successfully, logically, and sequentially. Ideas flow smoothly throughout the entire paper. Transitions effectively link sentences and paragraphs. 	 Presents ideas logically and sequentially. Ideas flow smoothly throughout most of the paper. Transitions link sentences and paragraphs. 	 Ideas are logical and sequential with few lapses. Ideas are sometimes smooth. Transitions attempt to link sentences and paragraphs. 	 Writing shows an attempt for some form of order. Ideas tend to be choppy. Transitions are limited. 	 Writing lacks an organizational pattern. Ideas are choppy and lack flow. Transitions are not apparent.
Voice	 The writer's personality is conveyed. Writer shows confidence in and commitment to the topic. Writing successfully connects with the reader and evokes strong emotion. 	 The writer's personality is suggested. Writer is mostly confident in and committed to the topic. Writing connects with the reader and evokes emotion. 	 The writer's personality is limited. Writer shows adequate confidence in and commitment to the topic. Writing makes some connections with the reader and evokes some emotion. 	 The writer's personality is inadequately conveyed. Writer's confidence and commitment are uncertain. Writing makes limited connections with the reader and evokes little emotion. 	 The writer's personality is not conveyed. Writer shows a lack confidence in and commitment to the topic. Writing is disconnected and lacks emotion.
Character & Setting	 Characters are well described through effective details, actions and dialogue (where appropriate). Setting is vividly described using the 5 senses. 	 Characters are described through details, actions and dialogue (where appropriate). Setting is described using the 5 senses. 	 Characters are mostly described using some details, actions and dialogue. Setting is described using most of the 5 senses. 	 Character descriptions are vague at times. Details, actions and dialogue are sparse. Setting description is vague at times. 	 Characters descriptions are vague. Details, actions and dialogue are absent. Setting descriptions are incomplete.
Word Choice	 Writing demonstrates a mature command of language including precision in word choice. Powerful and exact verbs, nouns, adjectives and phrases are used to enhance meaning. Dialogue is natural and adds depth to meaning. 	 Word choice is adequate, but may lack precision. Useful verbs, nouns, adjectives and phrases add to the meaning. Dialogue sounds natural. 	 Word choice is generally adequate. Verbs, nouns, adjectives and phrases are adequate. Dialogue is sometimes natural and sometimes forced. 	 Word choice is generally adequate, but limited and vague. Verbs, nouns, adjectives and phrases are common and lack clarity. Dialogue is forced. 	 Word choice is immature and limited. Verbs, nouns, adjectives and phrases do nothing to offering meaning and clarity. Writing lacks dialogue.

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Sentence Fluency	 A variety of sentence structures are used effectively. Sentences are smooth and have a rhythm that is easy to follow. Sentences are complete (except for intentional fragments). 	 A variety of sentence structures are used. Sentences are mostly smooth and a rhythm is noticeable. Sentences are mostly complete, although a few fragments may occur. 	 A variety of sentence structures are attempted. Sentences follow a predictable pattern and rhythm. Fragments are common, but understanding is still attainable. 	 A variety of sentence structures are attempted, although most are simple constructions. Sentence structure is uneven at times with little rhythm. Fragments are common and make understanding difficult. 	 The sentence structure is limited to simple constructions. Sentences are uneven and lack rhythm. Sentences are mostly incomplete.
Conventions	Student shows a strong knowledge of writing standards. The conventions of punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and indenting are strictly followed.	 Student shows an adequate understanding of writing standards. The conventions of punctuation, capitalization, spelling and indenting are mostly followed. 	 Student shows a basic knowledge of writing standards. Commonly used words are spelled correctly and other conventions are generally followed. 	 Student shows little knowledge of writing standards. Commonly used words are frequently misspelled and other conventions are seldom followed. Communication may be impeded at times. 	 Frequent errors in spelling, capitalization, punctuation and sentence structure impede communication.
Writer's Journal	 Student shows thoughtful reflection of the key topics discussed in each lesson. Writing is organized, focused and clear. Ideas and opinions are clearly supported. Writing demonstrates commitment and growth in the student as a writer. 	 Student shows appropriate reflection of topics. Writing is mostly organized, and easy to follow. Ideas and opinions are adequately supported. Writing demonstrates growth in the student as a writer. 	 Student attempts to be reflective of the topics. Writing shows an attempt at organization. Ideas and opinions are stated, but not supported. Writing shows some growth in the student as a writer. 	 Student shows minimal reflection of the topics. Writing is unorganized at times and difficult to assess. Ideas and opinions are minimally addressed. Writing shows little growth in the student as a writer. 	 Student's thoughts are vague and impersonal. Writing is unorganized and unclear. Ideas and opinions are vague. Writing shows a lack of growth in the student as a writer.

Adapted by T. Simpson from the FCAT Writing Rubric, at www.fcat.fldoe.org, and Ms. Hogue's Narritive Writing: 6 Trait Rubric, at www.mshogue.com.

Comments: