

Smarter Balanced Narrative Writing Rubric Grades 3-8

Score	Narrative Focus	Organization	Elaboration of Narrative	Language and Vocabulary	Conventions
4	The narrative, real or imagined, is clearly focused and maintained throughout: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively establishes a setting, narrator and/or characters. 	The narrative, real or imagined, has an effective plot helping create unity and completeness: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective, consistent use of a variety of transitional strategies. Logical sequence of events from beginning to end. Effective opening and closure for audience and purpose. 	The narrative, real or imagined, provides thorough and effective elaboration using details, dialogue, and description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective use of a variety of narrative techniques that advance the story or illustrate the experience. 	The narrative, real or imagined, clearly and effectively expresses experiences or events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language clearly advance the purpose. 	The narrative, real or imagined, demonstrates a strong command of conventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few, if any, errors, in usage and sentence formation Effective and consistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling
3	The narrative, real or imagined, is adequately focused and generally maintained throughout: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequately establishes a setting, narrator, and/or characters. 	The narrative, real or imagined, has an evident plot helping create a sense of unity and completeness; though there may be minor flaws and some ideas may be loosely connected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate use of a variety of transitional strategies. Adequate sequence of events from beginning to end. Adequate opening and closure for audience and purpose. 	The narrative, real or imagined, provides adequate elaboration using details, dialogue, and description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate use of a variety of narrative techniques that generally advance the story or illustrate the experience. 	The narrative, real or imagined, adequately expresses experiences or events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language generally advance the purpose. 	The narrative, real or imagined, demonstrates an adequate command of conventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some errors in usage and sentence formation but no systematic pattern of errors is displayed. Adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
2	The narrative, real or imagined, is somewhat maintained and may have a minor drift in focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconsistently establishes a setting, narrator, and/or characters. 	The narrative, real or imagined, has an inconsistent plot, and flaws are evident: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconsistent use of basic transitional strategies with little variety. Uneven sequence of events from beginning to end. Opening and closure, if present are weak. Weak connection among ideas. 	The narrative, real or imagined, provides uneven, cursory elaboration using partial and uneven details, dialogue, and description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrative techniques, if present, are uneven and inconsistent. 	The narrative, real or imagined, unevenly expresses experiences or events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partial or weak use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that may not advance the purpose. 	The narrative, real or imagined, demonstrates a partial command of conventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent errors in usage may obscure meaning. Inconsistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
1	The narrative, real or imagined, may be maintained but may provide little or no focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May be very brief May have a major drift Focus may be confusing or ambiguous. 	The narrative, real or imagined, has little or no discernable plot: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few or no transitional strategies are evident Frequent extraneous ideas may intrude. 	The narrative, real or imagined, provides minimal elaboration using little or no details, dialogue, and description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of narrative techniques is minimal, absent, in error, or irrelevant. 	The narrative, real or imagined, expression of ideas, is vague, lacks clarity or is confusing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses limited language May have little sense of purpose. 	The narrative, real or imagined, demonstrates a lack of command of conventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Errors are frequent and severe and meaning is often obscured.
0	A response gets no credit if it provides no evidence of the ability to write a narrative				