

Short, Short Story Rubric

	10 /9	8.5/8/7.5	7/6.5	6/5.5
Opening Sentence and Closing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Very creative and interesting first sentence. -Hooks the reader immediately. -Conclusion ends with a “bang”. -May evokes an emotion in the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Interesting and creative first sentence. -Attempts to hook the reader. -Resolves story in a logical, predictable way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -First sentence is appropriate. -May or may not hook the reader. -Conclusion ends abruptly or with little impact. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -First sentence does not hook reader. -May be inappropriate or too forced considering the subject. -No conclusion or weak.
Meaning (sense of audience, integration of story elements, plot, character, theme)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Strong sense of audience; engaging story -Control and ease with story elements -Developed around a “mature” subject -Some complexity in theme or controlling idea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -sense of audience, some impact -has all story elements; development may be inconsistent -storyline has some complexity or originality -theme or controlling idea is relevant to age group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -some sense of audience and style -includes most story elements -easy to follow storyline with simple conflict; does not build to climax -simple, superficial theme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -little sense of audience or purpose -limited story elements -no underlying structure or development -no theme or controlling idea
Tone/ Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Chooses words that are clear, descriptive and accurate. -shows originality and inventiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -varied word choice and descriptions -some risk taking to create effects - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -some variety in word choice -direct and conversational; little description, imagery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -simple word choice -immature style
Sentence fluency and variety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Sentences are varied -300-500 words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -sentences are somewhat varied -300-500 words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -sentences could be more varied -too few or too many words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -sentences are too simple; may need some variety
Mechanics and Grammar (capitals, commonly confused words)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few errors – do not distract the reader 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -few errors, does not affect meaning and looks to be edited and proofread 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -noticeable errors -proofreading would have improved story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -frequent errors that distract and may be fixed by proofreading.