Narrative Essay Rubric

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|  | **10/9** | **8.5/8/7.5** | **7/6.5** | **6/5** |
| Ideas/Purpose | -A **unique** story that is shared using details that make the narrative truly memorable-**Purpose** is inferred or stated naturally | -An interesting experience is shared with details that help create the interest-Purpose is inferred or stated clearly | -The interesting experience needs more details -Purpose is stated explicitly but may not fit the story. OR may be confusing | -The narrative need to focus on one experience. Some details do not fit the narrative or it is missing details-Purpose is unclear  |
| Pacing and Plot | Pacing is ideal. Details enhance the plotFocus is on the purpose.  | Pacing is good.Enough details to enhance the plot but could use a bit more (or less) | Pacing is off. May need more details (or less) to fill in the “plot holes”  | Pacing is off. Too many plot holes |
| Organization | The organization makes the narrative **easy to read and enjoyable** | Organized well with a clear beginning, middle and end | The order of events need to be correctedTransitions may be weak or missing | Organization is confusing. Transitions weak or missing |
| Voice | The voice creates an **unforgettable experience**  | The personal voice creates interest. Possibly more dialogue is needed | The voice can usually be heard but may be a bit flat  | Voice is simple  |
| Word choice | Exceptional word choiceThe story is **shown** in **vivid details and imagery****Shown NOT told**  | Specific nouns, strong verbs and well-chosen modifiers create vivid pictures and express clear feelings. **Some *showing* as opposed to *telling*** | Some vivid language is used but may be overused or simple. **Story is *told*, not *shown*** | Little or no attempt at vivid language is used. Story is *told*, not *shown* |
| Sentence Fluency | The sentences are **skillfully written, varied, original and interesting****Effort to combine sentences and use short ones is obvious.**  | The sentences show variety and are easy to read and understand **Some effort to combine sentences correctly** | More variety in sentences are needed. Sentences may be awkward. **Combining sentences needs to be improved** | Too many awkward sentences that cause the reader to pause**Combining sentences needs to be improved** |
| Conventions | Grammar and punctuation are correct (**esp. dialogue, and semi-colons and colons**) -**Correct tense**  | The narrative has a few errors in punctuation, spelling or grammar-Correct tense  | The narrative has obvious errors in punctuation, spelling and grammar.-not in correct tense | Too many errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar-not in correct tense |
| Rhetorical Devices and Writing Techniques | Four clearly marked, correct examples **Examples are sophisticated and interesting**  | Four clearly marked, correct examples **Examples are good but may be basic**  | 3-4 clearly marked, correct examples **Examples are simple and clichés**  | Some examples of writing techniques**Examples are cliché**  |