

Writing Rubric • 7th -8th Grade —Narrative

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My topic is unclear. ▪ I did not include any reactions. ▪ I did not write enough to demonstrate my skill at focusing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My topic is unclear or my ideas are unrelated. ▪ I did not write the paper in chronological order. ▪ I wrote about many events without tying them together. ▪ I did not include reactions. ▪ I did not write enough to demonstrate my skill at focusing. ▪ I did not write a narrative paper. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My topic is clear, but my readers may have to read the prompt to understand the paper. ▪ I may not stay on topic (slight drift off topic). ▪ I included reactions. ▪ I do not have a closing or the closing is ineffective. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I stayed on one topic, and tied to prompt. ▪ I introduced the topic in the opening of the paper. ▪ I included appropriate reactions. ▪ I commented on my topic by the end of the paper. ▪ I wrote an effective closing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I stayed on one topic, and tied to prompt throughout the entire paper. ▪ My audience knows my topic from the beginning because I used a clear introduction. ▪ Reactions relate to my paper. ▪ I commented on my topic by the end of the paper. ▪ I used an effective closing that ends the paper and ties the whole narrative together and attempted to explain significance of event. ▪ My conclusion includes a personal reaction. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I stayed on one topic, and tied to prompt throughout the entire paper. ▪ I used an engaging introduction that lets my readers know the topic. ▪ My reactions are related to the paper. ▪ I used an effective closing that ends the paper and ties the whole narrative together and explains the significance of the event. ▪ My conclusion includes a personal reaction/impact (lesson learned)
Elaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ My topic is unclear. ▪ I have not written enough. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I only listed events or reactions without including details. ▪ I have only written general details, or I have merely repeated information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I developed some major events with specific details, but some are not detailed enough. ▪ I listed only some episodes and reactions. ▪ I repeated the same details. ▪ My voice is not appropriate for topic, purpose, and audience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I developed many major events with specific detail and reactions, but some are not developed enough. ▪ My details are not evenly balanced. ▪ My word choice adds to the detail. ▪ My voice is present but inconsistent. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I developed all major events with specific detail. ▪ I developed most events with an even amount of detail. ▪ I used some different ways to develop the details (such as points of view, dialogue, others' reactions). ▪ My word choice adds to the detail and enhances my paper. ▪ My voice may be appropriate for topic, purpose, and audience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I developed all events equally with specific detail. ▪ I developed most of the events in depth so that my readers can clearly imagine them. ▪ I used many different ways to develop the details (such as points of view, dialogue, others' reactions). ▪ My word choice is sophisticated and adds to the detail. ▪ My voice is appropriate for topic, purpose, and audience.

Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I did not use chronological order or paragraphing to tell my story. I did not write enough to demonstrate my skill at organizing my ideas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have not written a narrative paper, although structure is attempted. I did not write enough to demonstrate my skill at organizing my ideas. I didn't paragraph my paper appropriately. I did not use any transitions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I wrote a paper in chronological order with a beginning, middle, and end, but it has many time gaps. The transitions I used confuse my readers or interfere with their ability to understand my paper. Some of my paragraphing is appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I wrote in chronological order with a beginning, middle, and end, but some time gaps. Most sentences and paragraphs fit together and my paper flows with simple transitions. Most events are in logical order. Most paragraphing is appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I wrote in chronological order with a beginning, middle, and end and no major time gaps. My paper flows because I used various types of transitions between sentences and paragraphs. Most events and reactions are interrelated. All paragraphing is appropriate. Word choice and varied sentence structure help tie my paper together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I wrote in chronological order with a beginning, middle, and end and no time gaps. My paper flows because I tied my sentences and paragraphs in different ways (transitions, parallel structure, pronouns). All events and reactions are interrelated. All paragraphing is purposeful and appropriate. My word choice and varied sentence structure help tie my paper together. All of my sentences do not start the same.
Integration**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I did not write about the topic or I did not complete the assignment. I did not write enough to demonstrate my skill at combining focus, elaboration, and organization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I did not write a narrative paper (focus). I did not give enough details (elaboration), and did not write in chronological order (organization). My readers are confused. I did not write enough to demonstrate my skill at combining focus, elaboration, and organization. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My readers must figure out what I am writing about because at least one of the episodes is incomplete. I stayed on the event most of the time (focus), gave some details (elaboration), and wrote the paper mostly in chronological order (organization). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> My narrative is simple yet clear. I stayed on the event (focus), gave enough details (elaboration), and used chronological order (organization). I could have explained my events with more depth (second level elaboration). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I wrote a developed narrative, but some parts of my paper are better than others. I stayed on the event (focus); I included details for all of my episodes (elaboration); I wrote the sequence of events in chronological order (organization); and my sentences and paragraphs fit smoothly together in most parts of my paper (coherence and cohesion). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I wrote a fully developed narrative on the event (focus) and included many details for all episodes (elaboration). I wrote the sequence of events in chronological order (organization), and my sentences and paragraphs fit smoothly together throughout (coherence and cohesion).
**The integration score is double-weighted in the final total writing score (ex. A score of 3 is added as 6 in the student score).						
Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of errors in my paper interferes with the reader's understanding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I consistently made the same mistakes with grammar, punctuation, capitalization, or spelling, but the mistakes do not interfere with the reader's understanding. I made an attempt to vary sentence structure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I used correct grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling, but may have made minor mistakes. I used a variety of spelling structures. 			