

## Smarter Balanced Narrative Writing Rubric Grades 3-8

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