

Narrative Essay Rubric (100 points)

Name: _____

10-9	Precise and consistent demonstration of the writing skills learned in class. Fulfills all of the requirements outlined in the essay rubric. Expresses ability to make inferences and applications to world outside of classroom environment.
8	Correct demonstration of the writing skills learned in class; although, generalizations exist within writing. Fulfills all of the requirements outlined in the essay rubric. Implies knowledge of inferences and recognizes applications to world outside of classroom environment.
7	Limited demonstration of the writing skills learned in class. Inconsistencies in the requirements outlined in the essay rubric. Does not express inferences or recognizes applications to world outside of classroom environment.
6-1	Incomplete or inadequate knowledge of the ideas and/or areas of investigation. Writing does not demonstrate the skills learned in class. Inconsistencies in the requirements outlined in the essay rubric. Does not express inferences or recognizes applications to world outside of classroom environment.
0	Student did not complete the assignment.

	10-9	8	7	6-1
Ideas (20 points) Theme Characterization	Essay has a unifying focus and purpose that indicates the importance of the story to the reader. It has a central theme that makes a statement about the human experience or society as whole.	Essay has a theme that unifies all the events in the story. Essay doesn't necessarily connect the theme to the reader.	Although a theme is present at times in the essay, the reader is often left wondering the purpose of the events and why the story is being told.	Essay is just a sequence of events without a purpose or a theme.
Style (20 points) Narrative Techniques	Essay engages readers with narrative techniques and figurative language: foreshadow, dialogue, imagery, setting, metaphors, symbolism, etc. These narrative techniques effectively enhance the readers understanding of theme.	Essay contains some narrative and figurative language, but is mainly told from start to finish. Narrative techniques attempt to express the importance of the theme.	A limited amount of narrative techniques exist within the essay and do not express the importance of the theme.	Narrative techniques are rare and ineffective.
Plot (20 points) Plot Beginning/End	The events in the story interact with the theme. Major and minor events are intertwined in order to build a natural conclusion with a clear understanding of the theme. The beginning of the story informs the readers of the topic while the ending addresses the theme, concludes any loose ends, and leaves the reader satisfied with the string of events.	The events of the story build to a logical conclusion that supports the theme. Events are adequately described. There is an engaging beginning and an effective ending that ties up the questions of the story.	Some of the events in the story do not seem to lead to the conclusion. Events have very little description. The beginning and ending are predictable with many unanswered questions.	Story describes events in vague, general ways. The events do not lead to a logical ending. There is not a clear beginning or ending.

Voice (20 points) Audience Authenticity	Essay recognizes the audience by expressing, through characters and events, why the theme is important to them. Essay provides vivid details about the events and experiences in order to heighten the readers' understanding.	Essay gives reasons why the theme is important. Essay provides details about the events and experiences.	Essay attempts to persuade readers that the topic of essay is important. Attempts to provide details about the events, but details are usually ineffective.	Essay does not recognize or connect to the reader. Details, if any, of events and experiences are too personal and do little for the readers.
Creativity (10 points)	The essay contains surprises, unexpected events or conflicts, and imagery that enhances the readers' understanding of what is taking place in the writing.	The essay contains surprises, unexpected events or conflicts, and imagery.	The essay attempts to supply surprises, unexpected events or conflicts, and imagery, but often results in confusion for the reader.	Essay is predictable and ordinary. Creativity does nothing to engage readers.
Transitions and sentence structure (5 points)	The sentences and paragraphs of the essay build naturally on each other using transitional and narrative devices. Various sentence structures are used to maintain an engaged reader. There is a clear organization to the transition of paragraphs.	There is organization to the paragraphs. Transitions are used to connect both paragraphs and sentences. Sentence structures vary. Still maintains the engagement.	The transition of paragraphs makes the essay confusing. Essay lacks varying sentence structures. Results in limited engagement from the readers.	Essay lacks transitions and varying sentence structure. Story is very confusing. Difficult for reader to finish the essay.
Conventions (5 points)	Proper MLA format is maintained throughout the essay. Standard English is maintained, spelling and punctuation errors are addressed.	Proper MLA format is maintained throughout the essay. Standard English is maintained, spelling and punctuation errors are addressed; however, mistakes are made.	MLA format is attempted, but does not follow the strict guidelines presented in the syllabus. There are many spelling and punctuation errors that create confusion for the reader.	MLA format is missing. Writing contains numerous spelling and punctuation errors indicating the essay was not proofread for errors.

Total: _____ / 100

Comments: