Harwood Unified Union School District Narrative Writing Rubric Grades 3-6

		Beginning	Emerging	Proficient	Advanced
STRUCTURE	Statement of Purpose/Focus	The narrative, real or imagined, may be maintained but may provide little or no focus: May be very brief May have a major drift Focus may be confusing or ambiguous	The narrative, real or imagined, is somewhat maintained and may have a minor drift in focus: Inconsistently establishes a setting, narrator and/or characters	The narrative, real or imagined, is adequately focused and generally maintained throughout: • Adequately establishes a setting, narrator and/or characters	The narrative, real or imagined, is clearly focused and maintained throughout: • Effectively establishes a setting, narrator and/or characters
	Organization	The narrative, real or imagined, has little or no discernable plot: Few or no transitional strategies are evident Frequent extraneous ideas may intrude	The narrative, real or imagined, has an inconsistent plot, and flaws are evident: Inconsistent use of basic transitional strategies with little variety Uneven sequence of events from beginning to end Opening and closure, if present are weak Weak connection among ideas	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: • Adequate use of variety of transitional strategies • Adequate sequence of events from beginning to end • Adequate opening and closure for audience and purpose	The narrative, real or imagined, has an effective plot helping create unity and completeness: • Effective, consistent use of variety of transitional strategies • Logical sequence of events from beginning to end • Effective opening and closure for audience and purpose
DEVELOPMENT	Elaboration of Evidence	The narrative, real or imagined, provides minimal elaboration using little or no details, dialog and description: Use of narrative techniques is minimal, absent, in error or irrelevant	The narrative, real or imagined, provides uneven, cursory elaboration using partial and uneven details, dialogue and description: Narrative techniques, if present, are uneven and inconsistent	The narrative, real or imagined, provides adequate elaboration using details, dialogue and description: • Adequate use of a variety of narrative techniques that generally advance the story or illustrate the experience	The narrative, real or imagined, provides thorough and effective elaboration using details, dialogue and description: • Effective use of a variety of narrative techniques that advance the story or illustrate the experience
	Craft	Uses only concrete, simple structures to convey the argument.	Attempts to incorporate writer's craft to convey ideas and strengthen the argument.	Incorporates writer's craft in ways that convey ideas and strengthen argument.	Purposefully incorporates writer's craft in a variety of ways to convey ideas and strengthen argument.
CONVENTIONS	Language and Vocabulary	The narrative, real or imagined, expression of ideas is vague, lacks clarity, or is confusing: Uses limited language May have little sense of purpose Uses no academic or domain specific vocabulary, when applicable.	The narrative, real or imagined, unevenly expresses experiences or events: Partial or weak use of sensory, concrete and figurative language that may not advance the purpose Uses limited academic and/or domain specific vocabulary for the audience and purpose, when applicable.	The narrative, real or imagined, adequately expresses experiences or events: • Adequate use of sensory, concrete and figurative language generally advance the purpose • Uses academic and domain specific vocabulary appropriate for the audience and purpose, when applicable.	The narrative, real or imagined, clearly and effectively expresses experiences or events: • Effective use of sensory, concrete and figurative language clearly advance the purpose • Uses precise and sophisticated academic and domain specific vocabulary appropriate for the audience and purpose, when applicable.
	Grammar,	The narrative demonstrates a lack of command of conventions:	The narrative demonstrates a partial command of conventions:	The narrative demonstrates an adequate command of conventions:	The narrative demonstrates a strong command of conventions:

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	Usage, Mechanics	 Needs support to edit. Does not demonstrate sentence mastery. Demonstrates limited understanding of grade cluster appropriate conventions and errors interfere with the meaning. 	 Uses resources and support to edit. Uses some repetitive yet correct sentence structure. Demonstrates some grade cluster appropriate conventions, but errors obscure meaning. 	 Independently uses resources to edit. Uses correct and varied sentence structures. Demonstrates grade cluster appropriate conventions; errors are minor and do not obscure meaning. 	 Independently uses resources to edit. Uses purposeful and varied sentence structures. Demonstrates creativity and flexibility when using conventions (grammar, punctuation, capitalization and spelling) to enhance meaning.
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