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|  | **Exceeds the Standard** | **Meets the Standard** | **Almost There** | **Progressing** |
| **Character** | My description of the characters and their interactions are clearly influenced by my point of view. Over the course of the story my characters are richly developed through their actions and dialogue. They have consistent traits that impact the plot. | I can write a story with a clear protagonist and antagonist who have appropriate goals and motivations. My descriptions of the characters are appropriate for the point of view I have chosen. Over the course of the story my characters are well developed through their actions and dialogue. | I can write a story with a protagonist and an antagonist. My characters have clear goals. | I can write a story with characters who play a role in the story. |
| **Setting** | I can use descriptive details to help my reader picture the setting. My setting plays an strong role in the story and has a major impact on characters and events. | I can establish a clear and appropriate setting--both time and place. My setting is described in enough detail so that it is easy to picture. | I can write a story with a clear setting--both time and place. I describe my setting a little bit. | I can write a story with a setting. |
| **Conflict** | I can write a story with conflicts that are influenced by my characters and the point of view from which I am writing. | I can write a story with an exciting conflict that is influenced by the point of view from which I am writing. | I can write a story with a conflict that is appropriate for my characters and the point of view. | I can write a story with conflict. |
| **Rising Action** | I can describe multiple rising action events where the protagonist tried to overcome obstacles and reach his/her goal. My rising action uses dialogue and the point of view to build tension and set the protagonist up for the climax. | I can describe multiple rising actions events where the protagonist tries to overcome obstacles and reach his/her goal. My rising action builds tension and sets the protagonist up for the climax. | I can describe some rising action that moves the story forward and sets up the protagonist for the climax. | I can describe some rising action. |
| **Climax** | I can richly describe an exciting climax that is influenced by the point of view, and challenges the protagonist and forces him/her to face the conflict. | I can include a clear and exciting climax that appropriately challenges the protagonist and forces him/her to face the conflict. | I can include an exciting event that might serve as a climax and set the story up for a resolution. | I can include an event that might serve as a climax. |
| **Resolution** | I can include a resolution that helps my reader to understand what my story is really about. I used dialogue, action, inner thinking, and descriptive details to leave my reader with a sense of closure. | I can end my story with a resolution that ends the conflict or shows how the character has changed and learned a lesson. My resolution and helps to communicate a theme. If there is no resolution, it is because that is part of my message. | I can include a resolution that ends the conflict. | I can include an ending for my story. |
| **Theme** | My story communicates a theme that is complex and layered, so that the story might have multiple meanings or lessons. | My story communicates a clear theme. The characters, conflict and resolution all work together to make the story’s message clear so that the writer does not have to tell the reader what the theme is; the reader can infer it. | I can state the theme somewhere in my story. | I could add a theme to my story with a few more details. |
| **Point of View** | I use the point of view to add excitement or meaning of the story. If I switch the point of view, it is for a purpose and I make the change easy for my reader to follow. | I tell my story from a clear and consistent point of view that is different from the original. It is clear who is narrating the story. | I mostly tell my story from a clear and consistent point of view. There may be one or two parts that get confusing. | I do not have a clear point of view. |
| **Voice and Tone: Descriptive Details** | I used sophisticated vocabulary, especially adjectives, to describe events. I also use figurative language like metaphor or simile. | I use plenty of description so that the reader can picture what’s happening I don't just list events. | I do some describing of the characters, setting and events. | I list the events in the story. |
| **Voice and Tone: Sentence Structure** | I use a variety of sentence structures to create a natural flow between events and to communicate an emotion or deeper meaning. | I use a variety of sentence structures to create a natural flow between events. | I use a variety of sentence structures I don’t start every sentence the same way! | There is little to no variety in sentence structure. |
| **Organization: Transitions** | I uses phrases rather than single word transitions to tell where, when, and why events are happening. . | I use a variety of appropriate transitions to tell where and when the events are happening. | I used transitions to tell where and when events are happening. | I used some transitions. |
| **Organization: Sequence** | I experiment with a different type of story structure to enhance my story. (Parallel episodes, flashback, etc.) | The events in my story go in order of time so the reader doesn't get confused. | The events in my story go in order of time for the most part, but the reader may get confused once or twice. | Some of the events of my story go in a logical order. |
| **Organization: Paragraphs** | I used paragraph to make the story easier to follow. I also used paragraphs to help the reader follow dialogue. | I used paragraphs effectively. Each time a new event happens, a new person speaks or the setting changes, I began a new paragraph. | I used some paragraph, but there may be a few places where more paragraphs were required. | I did not use paragraphs. |
| **Proofreading: Capitals** | All words are capitalized correctly. | Almost all words are capitalized correctly. | I have several errors in capitalization. | I have many errors in capitalization. |
| **Proofreading: Punctuation** | All sentences, including dialogue, are punctuated correctly. | Almost all sentences, including dialogue, are punctuated correctly. | Several sentences, including dialogue, are punctuated incorrectly. | Many sentences, including dialogue, are punctuated incorrectly. |
| **Proofreading: Sentences** | All of my sentences are complete and make sense. | Almost all of my sentences are complete and make sense. | Several sentences are incomplete or don't make sense. | Many sentences are incomplete or don't make sense. |
| **Proofreading: Spelling** | All words are spelled correctly. | All words are spelled correctly, but I may have used the wrong word--its vs. it's, there vs. they're, etc. . | Several words are spelled incorrectly or I often mixed up words. (Its vs. it's, they're vs. there, etc.) . | Many words are spelled incorrectly or I often mixed up words. (Its vs. it's, they're vs. there, etc.) . |