
Exceptional Rubric

Focus, Development, and Organization

- The narrative engages and orients the reader by establishing context and point of view with a well-developed novel approach
- Well-developed, coherent and creative structure seamlessly connects sequence of events
- Uses sophisticated and effective techniques to develop experiences, events and/or characters
- Significance of the incident is artfully woven in the narration

Word Choice and Sentence Structure

- Sophisticated and intentional use of sentence structure enhances meaning
- Uses transitional words and phrases to signal event order that add to the story's impact; transitions are smooth
- Uses a variety of figurative language and vivid sensory details to capture the action and add to the impact of the experiences and events
- Uses varied, precise and sophisticated language to convey experiences and events

Grammar, Usage, and Conventions

- Spelling is correct with use of sophisticated vocabulary
- Mastery of writing conventions (capitalization; subject-verb agreement; past, present, and future tenses; punctuation; plurals; indentation and use of margins) with minor errors of first-draft writing