**Writing a Narrative Essay about Being Judged**

| **Descriptors** | **1 - Beginning** | **2 - Approaching** | **3 - Developing** | **4 - Capable** | **5 - Experienced** | **6 - Exceptional** |
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| **Ideas**  **(20%)**  Focused on a strong and creative story idea; specific, descriptive details; and use of plot, setting, characters, conflict, and dialogue | No identifiable plot and setting, no development of characters or dialogue, no tension or descriptions | Minimally developed plot and setting with characters that are described but not developed, ineffective dialogue, and a plot lacking tension and descriptions | Insufficiently detailed plot, setting, and dialogue; flat characters and dialogue; undeveloped tension; and few descriptions | Adequately developed plot and setting with believable characters, dialogue that reveals character thoughts, and good use of tension and descriptive details | Well-developed plot and setting with believable characters, good dialogue, tension, and engaging descriptions | Thoroughly developed and detailed plot and setting with complex characters, effective dialogue, strong tension, and engaging descriptions |
| **Organization**  **(20%)**  Unified structure; effective organization; and strong, clever transitions | Poor opening with a story that lacks basic structure and sequence, and an inadequate conclusion | Poor opening that leads to a hard-to-follow plot with poor sequence and transitions, and a weak conclusion | Adequate opening that leads to intermittent story flow and sequence, weak transitions, and some sense of closure | Interesting opening that leads to good story flow, and transitions that support the development of the plot | Engaging opening that leads to a smooth story flow with effective transitions, story development, and a satisfying conclusion | Clever and engaging opening that leads to a smooth story flow with excellent transitions and a conclusion that ties story elements together |
| **Word Choice**  **(20%)**  Precise, rich language that expresses ideas and engages the reader | Vague language with general and repetitive words; and simple sentences with no sensory, concrete, and figurative language | Uninteresting language with no variation in word choice; simple sentences with no variation; and little sensory, concrete, and figurative language | Ordinary language with insufficient variety; simple sentences with little variation; and some sensory, concrete, and figurative language | Interesting language with some variation of words; structured, somewhat varied sentence; and adequate use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language | Lively language with a variety of engaging words; well-structured and varied sentences; and good use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language | Precise language with a variety of powerful and engaging words; well-structured and varied sentences; excellent use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language |
| **Sentence Fluency and Voice**  **(20%)**  Rhythmic and flowing language, varied sentences, and a unique perspective with ideas and details that appeal to the audience | Incomplete or incorrect sentences containing errors and little or no structure, writing that shows no personality, and a lack of understanding of style | Sentences that are too simple or incomplete, choppy writing, writing that shows unclear and inconsistent personality, and use of inappropriate style | Varied sentences that still need better flow, variation, and structure; writing that shows little personality; and style that is not well suited to the story | Easy-to-follow sentences with some variation in length and structure; writing that shows limited personality; and style that is appropriate to the story | Clear, natural, and flowing sentences with good variation in length and structure; writing that shows personality; and style that is well matched to the story | Extremely clear, natural, and flowing sentences with strong variation in length and structure; and style that is very well matched to the story |
| **Conventions**  **(20%)**  Mechanical and grammatical accuracy | Severe errors in grammar, mechanics, punctuation, and spelling that make the writing unclear | Consistent errors in grammar, mechanics, punctuation, and spelling that significantly interfere with the writing | Errors in grammar, mechanics, punctuation, and spelling that cause confusion | Some errors in grammar, mechanics, punctuation, and spelling that do n | Few errors in grammar, mechanics, punctuation, and spelling that do not affect the writing | Few or no errors in grammar, mechanics, punctuation, and spelling |