

CCSS Writing Rubric Grade 3—Narrative

	NS (0)	Does Not Meet (1)	Almost Meets (2)	Meets (3)	Exceeds (4)
Narrative Focus	No evidence	Writes a narrative, real or imagined, with no little or no focus Strays from the topic and doesn't come back	The narrative, real or imagined, is somewhat focused Inconsistently establishes a setting and characters	Writes a narrative, real or imagined that is focused 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	No evidence	Lacks an opening and/or closure Contains few or no transitions Confusing sequence of events	Provides weak opening and/or closure Uses transitions inconsistently with little variety Provides uneven sequence of events from beginning to end	Adequate opening and closure for the audience and purpose Uses a variety of transitional phrases to move the reader from one detail to the next Organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally	Meets all expectations set forth in (3) Effective opening and closure for the audience and purpose Uses smooth transitional phrases with purpose and variety Strong connections between ideas
Elaboration of Narrative	No evidence	Minimal elaboration using little or no details Unrelated ideas interfere with the story	Inconsistent and ineffective elaboration with few details and description Elaboration is not used to advance the story	Adequate elaboration using descriptive detail (ex: dialogue and characterization) Uses elaboration to generally advance the story	Effective elaboration using descriptive detail and a variety of techniques (ex: dialogue and characterization) Uses elaboration to effectively and consistently advance the story
Language and Vocabulary	No evidence	Language and vocabulary are confusing or vague Limited use of grade appropriate language	Language and vocabulary are used with little clarity Weak use of grade appropriate language (sensory, concrete)	Adequate use of language and vocabulary within the story (word choice, voice) Adequate use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language generally advances the story	Effective use of language and vocabulary within the story (word choice, voice) Effective use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language to consistently advance the story
Conventions	No evidence	Demonstrate a lack of command of grade level ¹ conventions Contains frequent and severe errors which impact meaning	Demonstrate a partial command of grade level ¹ conventions Contains frequent errors in usage that may confuse reader or impact meaning	Demonstrate an adequate command of grade level ¹ conventions Some errors in usage and sentence formation, but no systematic pattern of errors	Demonstrates an effective and consistent use of grade level ¹ conventions Few, if any errors

¹ See CCSS Language Standard