

Proficiency Scale

Narrative Writing Diagnostic – “How I Didn’t Spend My Summer”

Aligned to KY.ELA.W.9-10.3 and KY.ELA.L.9-10.1–3

Level 4 – Distinguished

The student demonstrates advanced mastery of narrative writing skills.

- Engages the reader with a strong, clear narrator and well-developed point of view
- Uses dialogue, pacing, and description purposefully to enhance the story
- Sequences events smoothly and logically with effective transitions
- Uses vivid sensory details and precise language to create a strong sense of setting
- Develops a clear and satisfying conclusion
- Demonstrates strong control of grammar, punctuation, spelling, and sentence structure
- Establishes a consistent and effective tone and voice

Level 3 – Proficient (Meets Standard)

The student demonstrates grade-level proficiency in narrative writing.

- Introduces a narrator and situation clearly
- Uses dialogue, pacing, and description appropriately
- Sequences events logically from beginning to end
- Includes some sensory details and specific language
- Provides a clear conclusion
- Demonstrates general control of grammar, punctuation, and spelling
- Maintains an appropriate tone and voice throughout

Level 2 – Developing

The student demonstrates partial understanding of narrative writing skills.

- Introduces a situation but lacks clarity in narrator or point of view
- Uses limited dialogue or description
- Sequences events inconsistently or with weak transitions
- Includes few sensory details
- Conclusion may be unclear or abrupt
- Demonstrates inconsistent control of grammar and conventions
- Tone or voice may shift or lack clarity

Level 1 – Beginning

The student demonstrates minimal understanding of narrative writing skills.

- Lacks a clear situation, narrator, or structure
- Limited or no use of dialogue or descriptive detail
- Events are unclear, disorganized, or incomplete
- No clear conclusion
- Frequent grammar, punctuation, or spelling errors interfere with understanding
- Tone and voice are undeveloped or inconsistent

Narrative Writing Diagnostic – Scoring Sheet

How I Didn't Spend My Summer

Total Points: 100

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Narrative Structure & Organization (30 points)

Aligned to KY.ELA.W.9-10.3a & 3c

- Clear beginning, middle, and end
- Logical sequencing of events
- Clear narrator and situation
- Effective conclusion

Score: _____ / 30

2. Narrative Techniques (Dialogue, Pacing, Description) (25 points)

Aligned to KY.ELA.W.9-10.3b

- Meaningful use of dialogue
- Appropriate pacing
- Development of conflict
- Engaging storytelling

Score: _____ / 25

3. Language & Sensory Detail (20 points)

Aligned to KY.ELA.W.9-10.3d & L.9-10.3

- Specific word choice
- Sensory details
- Clear setting
- Consistent tone and voice

Score: _____ / 20

4. Grammar & Conventions (15 points)

Aligned to KY.ELA.L.9-10.1 & L.9-10.2

- Sentence structure
- Capitalization
- Punctuation
- Spelling

Score: _____ / 15

5. Creativity & Effort (10 points)

- Original idea
- Fully developed narrative
- Meets word count (300–500 words)
- Shows effort and completion

Score: _____ / 10

Total Score: _____ / 100