

Sample Smarter Balanced Narrative Writing Rubric for the CA Standards Grades 3-8



Score	Narrative Focus	Organization	Elaboration of Narrative	Language and Vocabulary	Conventions
4	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, is clearly focused and maintained throughout:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively establishes a setting, narrator and/or characters. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, has an effective plot helping create unity and completeness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective, consistent use of a variety of transitional strategies. Logical sequence of events from beginning to end. Effective opening and closure for audience and purpose. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides thorough and effective elaboration using details, dialogue, and description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective use of a variety of narrative techniques that advance the story or illustrate the experience. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, clearly and effectively expresses experiences or events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language clearly advance the purpose. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, demonstrates a strong command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few, if any, errors, in usage and sentence formation Effective and consistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling
3	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, is adequately focused and generally maintained throughout:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequately establishes a setting, narrator, and/or characters. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, has an evident plot helping create a sense of unity and completeness, though there may be minor flaws and some ideas may be loosely connected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate use of a variety of transitional strategies. Adequate sequence of events from beginning to end. Adequate opening and closure for audience and purpose. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides adequate elaboration using details, dialogue, and description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate use of a variety of narrative techniques that generally advance the story or illustrate the experience. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, adequately expresses experiences or events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequate use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language generally advance the purpose. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, demonstrates an adequate command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some errors in usage and sentence formation but no systematic pattern of errors is displayed. Adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
2	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, is somewhat maintained and may have a minor drift in focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconsistently establishes a setting, narrator, and/or characters. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, has an inconsistent plot, and flaws are evident:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconsistent use of basic transitional strategies with little variety. Uneven sequence of events from beginning to end. Opening and closure, if present are weak. Weak connection among ideas. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides uneven, cursory elaboration using partial and uneven details, dialogue, and description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrative techniques, if present, are uneven and inconsistent. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, unevenly expresses experiences or events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partial or weak use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that may not advance the purpose. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, demonstrates a partial command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent errors in usage may obscure meaning. Inconsistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
1	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, maybe maintained but may provide little or no focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May be very brief May have a major drift Focus may be confusing or ambiguous. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, has little or no discernable plot:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few or no transitional strategies are evident Frequent extraneous ideas may intrude. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides minimal elaboration using little or no details, dialogue, and description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of narrative techniques is minimal, absent, in error, or irrelevant. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, expression of ideas, is vague, lacks clarity or is confusing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses limited language May have little sense of purpose. 	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, demonstrates a lack of command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Errors are frequent and severe and meaning is often obscured.
0	A response gets no credit if it provides no evidence of the ability to write a narrative text.				