

NEBRASKA DEPT OF EDUCATION SCORING GUIDE FOR NARRATIVE WRITING

	1	1+	2-	2	2+	3-	3	3+	4-	4
IDEAS/ CONTENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creates no understanding of the events of the story severe digressions from the prompt lacks supporting details storyline is repetitious, disconnected, or seemingly random 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creates a limited understanding of the events of the story some digressions from the prompt contains limited, unrelated details storyline is occasionally vague 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creates a general understanding of the events of the story is generally focused on the prompt contains adequate, relevant details storyline is generally logical and easy to follow 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creates a clear understanding of the events of the story is well-focused on prompt throughout contains numerous, relevant details storyline is distinctive and easy to follow 	
ORGANIZATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> structural development does not include a beginning, middle, and end sequencing is random pacing is awkward transitions are missing; connections are unclear 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> structural development of a beginning, middle, and end is incomplete sequencing is somewhat logical pacing is sometimes inconsistent transitions are predictable, repetitious or weak 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> structural development includes a functional beginning, middle, and end sequencing is functional and logical pacing is generally controlled transitions are generally effective 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> structural development includes an effective beginning, middle, and end sequencing is thoughtful, logical and effective pacing is well-controlled transitions clearly show how ideas connect 	
VOICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conveys no sense of the person behind the words tone is not appropriate for the purpose and audience is lifeless and/or mechanical 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conveys a limited sense of the person behind the words tone is sometimes not appropriate for purpose and audience is occasionally expressive 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conveys a general sense of the person behind the words tone is generally appropriate for purpose and audience is generally individualistic or expressive 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conveys a strong sense of the person behind the words tone is well-suited to the purpose and audience is individualistic, expressive, and engaging throughout 	
WORD CHOICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> language is neither specific nor precise contains numerous misused or overused words and phrases uses clichés and jargon rather than original language 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> language is occasionally specific and precise language is occasionally forced or contrived for the purpose and audience few vivid words and phrases some overuse of clichés and jargon 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> language is usually specific and precise language is generally appropriate for the purpose and audience generally uses vivid words and phrases generally avoids clichés and jargon 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> language is specific and precise throughout language is natural and appropriate for the purpose and audience effectively uses vivid words and phrases avoids clichés and jargon 	
SENTENCE FLUENCY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sentences almost never vary in length or structure choppy, incomplete, rambling, or awkward phrasing throughout fragments or run-ons distract the reader dialogue, if present, is used inappropriately or sounds unnatural 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sentences occasionally vary in length or structure phrasing occasionally sounds unnatural fragments, if present, sometimes confuse the reader dialogue, if present, occasionally sounds unnatural 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sentences vary generally in length and structure phrasing generally sounds natural and conveys meaning fragments, if present, may add style dialogue, if present, generally sounds natural 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sentences vary in length and structure throughout phrasing consistently sounds natural and conveys meaning fragments, if present, add style dialogue, if present, sounds natural 	
CONVENTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> paragraphing is missing errors in grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling throughout distract the reader 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> paragraphing, if attempted, is irregular errors in grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling may distract the reader 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> attempts at paragraphing are generally successful a few errors in grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling—especially with more sophisticated words and concepts – do not distract the reader 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> paragraphing is sound grammar, usage, spelling and punctuation are generally correct conventions—especially grammar and spelling—may be manipulated for stylistic effect 	