

# NEBRASKA DEPT OF EDUCATION SCORING GUIDE FOR NARRATIVE WRITING

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