

NARRATIVE WRITING RUBRIC GRADES 9-10

Score of 4 – Above Grade Level	Score of 3 – On Grade Level	Score of 2 – Approaching Grade Level	Score of 1 – Below Grade Level	
The writing –	The writing –	The writing –	The writing –	
 engages and orients the reader by setting out a situation or observation and its significance (11-12W3a) 	 engages and orients the reader by setting out a problem, situation or observation (9- 10W3a) 	 attempts to engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation or observation 	 makes little or no attempt to engage and orient the reader by setting out a problem, situation or observation 	
 skillfully establishes one or multiple point(s) of view (11-12W3a) 	 establishes one or multiple point(s) of view (9-10W3a) 	 attempts to establish one or multiple point(s) of view 	 makes little or no attempt to establish one or multiple point(s) of view 	
 skillfully introduces a narrator and/or characters (11-12W3a) 	 introduces a narrator and/or characters (9-10W3a) 	 attempts to introduce a narrator and/or characters 	 makes little or no attempt to introduce a narrator and/or characters 	se
 uses a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to 	 creates a smooth progression of experiences or events (9-10W3a) 	 attempts to create a smooth progressions of experiences or events 	 makes little or no attempt to create a smooth progressions of experiences or 	urpo
 create a coherent whole and build toward a particular tone and outcome (11-12-W3c) skillfully provides a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative (11-12W3e) 	 uses a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole (9-10W3c) integrates information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas (9-10W8) 	 attempts to use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole attempts to integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas 	 events makes little or no attempt to use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole makes little to no attempt to integrate 	Organization/Purpose 2 × =
 skillfully integrates information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas (11-12W8) produces clear and coherent writing appropriate to task, purpose, and audience (11-12W4) 	 provides a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative (9-10W3e) produces clear and coherent writing appropriate to task, purpose, and 	 attempts to provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course of the narrative 	 information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas (9-10.W.8) makes little or no attempt to provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on what is experienced, observed, or resolved over the course 	
The writing –	audience (9-10W4) The writing –	The writing –	of the narrative The writing –	
 skillfully uses narrative techniques such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines to develop experiences, events, and/or characters (11-12W3b) skillfully uses precise words and phrases, concrete details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/ or characters (11-12W3d) skillfully uses relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, when appropriate (11-12W8) skillfully quotes or paraphrases while avoiding plagiarism (11-12W8) skillfully follows a standard format for citation, when appropriate (11-12W8) 	 uses narrative techniques such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines to develop experiences, events, and/or characters (9-10W3b) uses precise words and phrases, concrete details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/ or characters (9-10W3d) uses relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, when appropriate (9-10W8) quotes or paraphrases while avoiding plagiarism (9-10W8) follows a standard format for citation, when appropriate (9-10W8) 	 attempts to use narrative techniques such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines to develop experiences, events, and/or characters attempts to use precise words and phrases, concrete details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/ or characters attempts to use relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, when appropriate attempts to quote or paraphrase while avoiding plagiarism attempts to follow a standard format for citation, when appropriate 	 makes little or no attempt to use narrative techniques such as dialogue, pacing, description, reflection, and multiple plot lines to develop experiences, events, and/or characters makes little or no attempt to use precise words and phrases, concrete details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/ or characters makes little or no attempt to use relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, when appropriate makes little or no attempt to quote or paraphrase while avoiding plagiarism makes little or no attempt to follow a standard format for citation, when appropriate 	Evidence/Elaboration 2 × =



Score of 4 – Above Grade Level	Score of 3 – On Grade Level	Score of 2 – Approaching Grade Level	Score of 1 – Below Grade Level	
 The writing – demonstrates a skillful command of grade- level appropriate standard English grammar, usage, and conventions (11- 12L1-2)* has errors that do not interfere with understanding (11-12L1-2)* 	 The writing – conforms to the guidelines in a style manual appropriate for the discipline and writing type, when appropriate (9-10L3a) a command of grade-level appropriate standard English grammar, usage, and conventions (9-10L1-2) has errors that do not interfere with understanding (9-10L1-2) 	 The writing – attempts to conform to the guidelines in a style manual appropriate for the discipline and writing type, when appropriate attempts to demonstrate a command of grade-level appropriate standard English grammar, usage, and conventions has errors that may interfere with understanding 	 The writing – makes little or no attempt to conform to the guidelines in a style manual appropriate for the discipline and writing type, when appropriate makes little or no attempt to demonstrate a command of grade-level appropriate standard English grammar, usage, and conventions has errors that interfere with understanding 	Language/Conventions 1 × =

Non-scorable responses: insufficient information and/or blank paper, copied text, in language other than English, off topic, off purpose *Conventions Chart p. 3



CONVENTIONS CHART GRADES 9-10

Spelling		Capitalization		Punctuation		Grammar Usage		Sentence Completion		
•	Spells words at grade level and below correctly. (L2c)	•	Uses capitalization rules from the previous grades. (L2a)	•	micolons: Uses semi-colon between two independent clauses connected by a conjunctive adverb (e.g., I studied late into the night; consequently, I passed the test) (9- 10L2a) lons: Uses a colon to introduce a list or quotation. (9- 10L2b)	Par •	allel Construction (9-10L1a): With single words (e.g., verbs particularly in informational and technical writing (parallel: A scientist observes, hypothesizes, and analyzes. VS not parallel: A scientist observes, hypothesized, and analyzed) With clauses (parallel: The coach told the players they should get plenty of sleep, they should not eat well, and they should do some warm-up exercises). With phrases (e.g., infinitive) parallel: Jamilah likes to hike, swim, and rides a bicycle, not parallel: Jamilah likes to hike, to swim, and rides a bicycle).	•	Use previous grades. (L1)	
						Phr •	ases and Clauses (9-10L1b): uses various types of phrases (noun, verb, adjectival, adverbial, participial, prepositional, absolute) and clauses (independent, dependent; Uses noun, relative, adverbial) to convey specific meanings and add variety and interest to writing or presentations.			

* as appropriate for grade level

Adapted from the Smarter Balanced – Conventions Chart – April, 2014

* Students are expected to demonstrate grade-level skills in conventions as specified in the CCSS as well as those specified for earlier grades.