NAME _____

DATE _____

NARRATIVE WRITING RUBRIC

FEATURES	INADEQUATE	UNDER DEVELOPED	PARTIALLY DEVELOPED	DEVELOPED	EXCEPTIONALLY DEVELOPED
FOCUS	•no theme is present	•a vague theme is present	•a basic theme is present	•a clear theme is present	•a strong theme is present
	3	**8**	**12**	**17**	**20**
SUPPORT	•no plot, support, or characterization is present	•random scattering of statements •character development is lacking (description, actions, dialogue) •little support/elaboration is evident	•underdeveloped plot •attempted character development •support/elaboration is somewhat credible	•plot is developed •good development of character(s) •a majority of support/elaboration is credible	•plot is detailed in great depth •strong development of characters •most support/elaboration is credible
	3	**8**	**12**	**17**	**20**
ORGANIZATION	•fails to meet structural requirements	•points lack appropriate order **and** coherence •severe paragraphing problems present	•points lack order **or** coherence •some appropriate paragraphing present	•the structure of the paper is evident and most points are appropriately paragraphed •a majority of points are logically presented and coherent	•the structure of the paper is evident, and all points are appropriately paragraphed •most points are logically presented and coherent
	3	**8**	**12**	**17**	**20**
STYLE/ INTEGRATION	•unoriginal, choppy writing	•unoriginal or repetitive transitions •intro is same as conclusion •poor word choice/word flow •does not use variety in sentence structure	•attempts variety in transitions, sentence structure, and word choice •awkward word flow	•variety of transitions link ideas/ paragraphs •frequently varies sentence structure •frequent good word choice/ takes risks •natural word flow	•variety in transitions linking ideas/paragraphs •regularly uses variety in sentence structure •superior word choice* •superior word flow (WOW!)
	3	**8**	**12**	**17**	**20**
CONVENTIONS (see reverse side for guidelines)	•the amount of writing is insufficient to show that criteria were met	•four or more major errors •numerous minor errors	•no more than three major errors • numerous minor errors	•no more than two major errors •few minor errors	•no more than one major error •few and/or no minor errors
	3	**8**	**12**	**17**	**20**

*strong verbs, precise language, specific/concrete nouns

Major and Minor Conventional Errors

Please note: Even though a student may repeat the same error, the error counts as one major or minor error. For example, if a student's paper has six run-ons and one fragment, since those errors are in the same major grammatical category, the student's paper only contains one major error.

Major

Subject/verb agreement	**Incorrect**: The number of applicants are growing. **Correct**: The number of applicants is growing.
Run-on/fragments	**Incorrect**: Using correct grammar is important. Because you want to make a good impression in the workplace speaking and writing well will help you to do just that. **Correct**: Using correct grammar is important because you want to make a good impression in the workplace. Speaking and writing well will help you do just that.
Omitted words that interfere/incorrect usage	**Incorrect**: It is important not to words when writing a paper, or your meaning will be effected. **Correct**: It is important not to omit words when writing a paper, or your meaning will be affected.
Incorrect pronoun reference	**Incorrect**: Everyone must hand in their work on time. **Correct**: Everyone must hand in his/her work on time.
Confusing tense shifts	**Incorrect**: The last time I wrote a paper, I write it at the last minute. **Correct**: The last time I wrote a paper, I wrote it at the last minute.
Misspelled common words	**Incorrect**: Students do not recieve grades; they earn them. **Correct**: Students do not receive grades; they earn them.
Punctuation/ capitalization	initial caps, proper nouns, ending punctuation, apostrophes

Minor

Incorrectly connecting clauses	**Incorrect**: Today is Monday, but tomorrow is Tuesday. **Correct**: Today is Monday, and tomorrow is Tuesday.
Omitted words that do not interfere/ incorrect homonym usage	**Incorrect**: They're to many students in the halls. **Correct**: There are many students in the halls.
Spelling (unusual, less frequently used words)	
Punctuation/capitalization	periods for abbreviations, commas in a series, commas in opening phrases or clauses