

Rubrics & Checklists

fulfilling

Common Core Standards

for

Fourth Grade

Narrative Writing

- Self-evaluation that's easy to use and comprehend
- Scoring that's based on Common Core expectations
- Checklists that lead students through the entire writing process

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Planning Checklist

- _____ I planned or imagined at least two different scenes or events.
- _____ I can describe the narrator and/or characters.
- _____ I planned an opening scene that will show readers what's going on.
- _____ My opening scene introduces readers to my narrator and/or characters.
- _____ My readers will relate to and be interested in the situation and the events I've planned to include.
- _____ I know how my characters will talk and what they will say to each other.
- _____ I imagined details and descriptions of my settings.
- _____ I imagined details and descriptions of my events.
- _____ I planned my characters' responses to the situations and events.
- _____ I know how I will show my characters' responses.
- _____ I thought of sensory details I can add.
- _____ I know how my story or narrative will end.
- _____ I spent enough time planning this narrative or story.

Check Your Beginning

1. Open your paper on your computer.
2. Highlight your opening scene in yellow.
3. Bold the names and descriptions of the characters in your opening scene.
4. Italicize descriptions of sounds, smells, or textures in your opening scene.
5. Select "File." Select "Save as."
6. In the File Name Box, add the word "Beginning" at the end of your file name.
7. Select "Save."
8. Look at your highlighting, and bolded and italicized words to figure your score.

I set up a situation in my opening paragraph!	→	1 point
I introduced my characters and/or narrator!!	→	2 points
Readers will understand what's happening in my opening scene!!!	→	3 points
I described sounds, smells, or textures in my opening scene!!!!	→	4 points

Total Points _____

Check Your Middle

1. Open your paper on your computer.
2. Highlight each event with a different color.
3. Bold areas that show what your characters are dealing with.
4. Select "File." Select "Save as."
5. In the File Name Box, add the word "Middle" at the end of your file name.
6. Select "Save."
7. Look at your highlighting and bolded areas to figure your score.

I chose events that matter to my story!	→	1 point
My events occur in a natural way!!	→	2 points
The events will make readers understand what my characters are dealing with!!!	→	3 points
I paced my events to build suspense and concern in my readers!!!!	→	4 points

	Total Points	_____

Check Your Arrangement

1. Open your paper on your computer.
2. Highlight words or phrases that indicate time or changes in time in yellow.
3. Select "File." Select "Save as."
4. In the File Name Box, add the word "Arrangement" at the end of your file name.
5. Select "Save."
6. Look at your highlighting to figure your score.

I used words and phrases to let readers know when events were occurring!!

2 points

I used words and phrases to let readers know the order of events and/or how much time occurred between events!!!

3 points

I also used clauses when telling readers about the order of events!!!!

4 points

Total Points

Check Your Characters

1. Open your paper on your computer.
2. Highlight characters' responses in yellow.
3. Highlight words and phrases that describe your characters in green.
4. Select "File." Select "Save as."
5. In the File Name Box, add the word "Characters" at the end of your file name.
6. Select "Save."
7. Look at your highlighting to figure your score.

I showed my characters' responses to events!!

2 points

I used specific words and/or sensory details to describe my characters!!!

3 points

Total Points _____

Check Your Details and Descriptions

1. Open your paper on your computer.
2. Highlight descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings in green.
3. Highlight dialogue and descriptions of places, things, and characters in blue.
4. Bold specific, concrete nouns and sensory details.
5. Select "File." Select "Save as."
6. In the File Name Box, add the word "Details" at the end of your file name.
7. Select "Save."
8. Look at your highlighting and bolded words to figure your score.

I described actions, thoughts, or feelings!	→	1 point
I included dialogue and/or descriptions of places, things, or characters!!	→	2 points
I used specific, concrete nouns and sensory details!!!	→	3 points
I used details and descriptions to pace my events and build suspense and interest!!!!	→	4 points _____
	Total Points	_____

Check Your Ending

1. Open your paper on your computer.
2. Highlight your ending in blue.
3. Select "File." Select "Save as."
4. In the File Name Box, add the word "Ending" at the end of your file name.
5. Select "Save."
6. Look at your highlighting to figure your score.

Readers will be able to tell my story has ended!!	→	2 points
My ending makes sense for the story I told!!!	→	3 points

Total Points		_____

Check Your Wording

1. Open your paper on your computer.
2. Highlight adjectives and adverbs in blue.
3. Highlight specific, concrete nouns in green.
4. Highlight descriptions of actions or emotions in orange.
5. Highlight words and phrases that compare ideas or events in gray.
6. Select "File." Select "Save as."
7. In the File Name Box, add the word "Wording" at the end of your file name.
8. Select "Save."
9. Look at your highlighting to figure your score.

I have adjectives and adverbs!	→	1 point
I included specific and concrete nouns!!	→	2 points
I have specific words that describe actions or emotions!!!	→	3 points
I used words and phrases to compare or contrast ideas and/or events!!!!	→	4 points

	Total Points	_____

Check Your Effect

1. Open your paper on your computer.
2. Highlight words and phrases that will affect your readers in yellow.
3. Highlight words and phrases that share your characters' thoughts or feelings in blue.
4. Bold phrases and clauses.
5. Select "File." Select "Save as."
6. In the File Name Box, add the word "Effect" at the end of your file name.
7. Select "Save."
8. Look at your highlighting and bolded words to figure your score.

I have words or phrases that will affect my readers!! → 2 points

I have words or phrases that share my characters' thoughts or feelings!!! → 3 points

I used a variety of sentence structures to increase my readers' understanding and interest!!!! → 4 points

Total Points _____

Revising Checklist

- _____ I put this narrative away then re-read it with fresh eyes.
- _____ I thought about the strengths and weaknesses of my narrative based on my reaction.
- _____ I asked others for their opinions.
- _____ I questioned others about their opinions until I understood what they meant.
- _____ I thought about the strengths and weaknesses of my narrative based on others' reactions.
- _____ I considered other ways to handle this narrative.
- _____ I tried some changes to my narrative based on my reaction and others' reactions.
- _____ I compared before and after changes.
- _____ I made changes to my narrative that make it more effective.
- _____ I spent enough time revising my narrative.

Editing Checklist

- _____ I used a dictionary for words I didn't know how to spell.
- _____ I capitalized the first word in my sentences, dates and holidays, proper nouns and appropriate words in titles.
- _____ I used correct punctuation at the end of my sentences.
- _____ My addresses, dates, and anything I listed (nouns, adjectives, verbs) have commas in the correct places.
- _____ If I included people talking, I used quotation marks and commas.
- _____ I used commas before coordinating conjunctions in compound sentences.
- _____ My verbs agree with their subjects.
- _____ I used the same verb tense - past, present, or future - for my whole narrative.
- _____ I used the correct form for irregular verbs.
- _____ My pronouns agree with the nouns they replace.
- _____ I used complete sentences.
- _____ I corrected sentence fragments and run-on sentences.
- _____ I have a variety of sentence structures, including simple, compound, and complex.
- _____ I used adjectives to describe nouns and adverbs to describe verbs.

Alignment with the Common Core Standards

Narrative Writing - 4th Grade

Check Your Beginning

Criteria

I set up a situation in my opening paragraph(s)

I introduced my characters and/or narrator

Readers will understand what's happening in my opening scene

I described sounds, smells, or textures in the opening scene

Standard

W.2.3

W.3.3a

W.4.3a

W.5.3d

Check Your Middle

Criteria

I chose events that matter to my story

My events occur in a natural way

The events will make readers understand what my characters are dealing with

I paced my events to build suspense and concern in my readers

Standard

W.2.3

W.3.3a

W.4.3a

W.5.3b

Check Your Arrangement

Criteria

I used words or phrases to let readers know when events were occurring

I used words or phrases to let readers know the order of events and/or how much time occurred between events

I also used clauses when telling readers about the order of events

Standard

W.3.3c

W.4.3c

W.5.3c

Check Your Characters

Criteria

I showed my characters' responses to events

I used specific words and/or sensory details to describe my characters

Standard

W.3.3a

W.4.3d

Check Your Details & Descriptions

Criteria

I described actions, thoughts, or feelings

I included dialogue and/or descriptions of places, things, or characters

I used concrete, specific nouns and sensory details

I used details and descriptions to pace my events and build suspense and interest

Standard

W.2.3

W.3.3b

W.4.3d

W.5.3b

Check Your Ending

Criteria

Readers will be able to tell my story has ended

My ending makes sense for the story I told

Standard

W.3.3d

W.4.3d

Check Your Wording Rubric

Criteria	Standard
I have adjectives and adverbs	L.2.6
I included specific and concrete nouns	L.3.6
I have specific words that describe actions or emotions	L.4.6
I used words and phrases to compare or contrast ideas and/or events	L.5.6

Check Your Effect Rubric

Criteria	Standard
I have words or phrases that will affect my readers	L.3.3a
I have words or phrases that share my characters' thoughts or feelings	L.4.3a
I used a variety of sentence structures to increase my readers' understanding and interest	L.5.3a

Checklists

	Standards
Planning	W.4.3a, W.4.3b, W.4.3d, W.4.3e, W.4.4, W.4.5, W.4.10
Revising	W.4.4, W.4.5, W.4.6, W.4.10
Editing	L.4.1, L.4.1f, L.4.2, L.4.2a, L.4.2b, L.4.2c, L.4.2d