

Narrative Writing Checklist

- My opening engages and orients readers by establishing a context to set the story in motion.
- My narrator and other characters are introduced and described.
- My story includes actions and an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
- Paragraphs are used intentionally to show time and setting changes, new parts of the story, or to create suspense for readers.
- Readers can imagine the actions, thoughts, and feelings of my characters.
- Narrative techniques like dialogue, pacing, and description are used to develop events and characters.
- Specific vocabulary, descriptive details and sensory language are used to convey experiences and events.
- Transition words are used to show sequencing.
- My ending is connected to the main part of my story. My main character/narrator said, did, or realized something at the end that came from what happened in the story. I gave readers a sense of closure.
- My story was focused throughout.
- Strong words and phrases are used to bring my writing to life.
- I used complete sentences. I varied my sentences to keep my writing interesting.
- Before I wrote my final draft, I checked to make sure I used punctuation (periods, commas, quotation marks, ellipses, dashes, etc.) correctly.
- Before I wrote my final draft, I checked to make sure all my words were spelled correctly or used a resource to help me spell words I wasn't sure about.

Response Writing Checklist

- I have identified and stated a clear meaning, message, or lesson from the text.
- I have supported my meaning, message, or lesson by providing evidence from the text and explaining how it helped my thinking.
- I have identified and stated at least two clear and relevant connections (text-to-self, text-to-text, text-to-world) to the text
- I have explained how each connection helped me better understand an important element of the story (event, character's thoughts or feelings, relationship, meaning, message, or lesson, etc.).
- I have supported my connections by providing clear evidence from the text
- I have identified and stated at least two clear and meaningful structures and features of the text.
- I have explained how each structure and feature helped me better understand an important element of the story (event, character's thoughts or feelings, relationship, meaning, message, or lesson, etc.).
- I have supported my ideas about each structure and feature by providing clear evidence from the text.
- I have provided an opinion or judgment about the qualities and ideas presented in the story.
- I have presented my ideas, reasoning and evidence in an organized way to clearly demonstrate my understanding of the story.
- I have used appropriate transitions to clearly show the relationships between my ideas, reasoning, and evidence.