Student Assessment of Writing Skills – Scoring Guide – Grade 5 Targets

Narrative: Relates an event or experience to an audience

SKILLS	3	2	1	0
Idea Development The writer develops the content of the message through the use of details.	Develops a clear and focused main idea in response to the topic	Presents a main idea in response to the topic	Attempts to present a main idea in response to the topic	No response to the topic; main idea is unclear
	Uses descriptive details to enrich idea development	Uses relevant details	Limited use of relevant details	Details are consistently irrelevant
Organization The writer builds the structure to support the purpose and effectiveness of the writing.	 Effectively organizes similar ideas; develops an effective beginning, middle, and ending Uses topic sentences and varied transitions between paragraphs 	 Groups similar ideas together; presents a beginning, middle, and ending Uses topic sentences and transitions between paragraphs 	 Attempts to group ideas together; presents a beginning or ending Lacks consistent use of topic sentences and transitions between paragraphs 	 Similar ideas are not grouped together; beginning and ending are unidentifiable Topic sentences or transitions between paragraphs are unidentifiable
Voice The writer uses descriptive, original language to communicate directly to the audience in a way that is individual, compelling, and engaging.	Narrative consistently reveals personal voice or style appropriate to the purpose Uses a variety of descriptive and original words or phrases	Narrative reveals personal voice or style appropriate to the purpose Uses descriptive and original words or phrases	Narrative reveals limited personal voice or style appropriate to the purpose Demonstrates little variation in word choice and/or repetitious use of simple words or phrases	Narrative is flat and lifeless Uses an extremely limited range of words or phrases or consistently uses words incorrectly
Conventions The writer develops the mechanical correctness of the piece including spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.	Uses grade-appropriate spelling consistently	Uses grade-appropriate spelling	Spells common words correctly, but other grade- appropriate words incorrectly	Misspells common words
	Uses grade-appropriate capitalization and punctuation consistently	Uses grade-appropriate capitalization and punctuation	Uses limited grade-appropriate capitalization or punctuation	Demonstrates incorrect use of grade-appropriate capitalization or punctuation throughout
	Uses grade-appropriate grammar and usage consistently	Uses grade-appropriate grammar and usage	Demonstrates limited control over grade-appropriate grammar and usage	Demonstrates incorrect use of grade-appropriate grammar and usage throughout
	Uses varied and mostly correct sentences	Attempts to use varied sentences; sentences are mostly correct	Sentences are simple and lack variety; inconsistently uses correct sentences	Sentences are run-on, incomplete, or fragmented