Narrative Writing Rubric

Element	**65%** Needs Improvement 1	**75%** Fair 2	**85%** Strong 3	**95%** Excellent 4
Orients and Engages the Reader	Does not engage or orient the reader. The situation is unclear, the narrator is not introduced, and the characters are poorly developed.	Attempts to engage the reader by establishing a situation. Introduces the narrator and develops at least one character.	Engages and orients the reader by establishing a situation, introducing the narrator, and developing characters.	Immediately engages and orients the reader by establishing a clear situation, introducing the narrator, and developing interesting characters
Narrative Techniques	Little to no attempt to use dialogue, description, and pacing. Experiences and events are underdeveloped throughout.	Attempts to use dialogue, description, and pacing but experiences and events are underdeveloped.	Uses dialogue, description, and pacing to develop experiences, events, and characters.	Effectively uses dialogue, description, and pacing to develop experiences, events, and characters.
Sequence of Events	Unclear sequence of events. The plot is hard to follow throughout.	Attempts to sequence events. The plot is hard to follow in places.	Clear sequence of events that unfold naturally.	Clear purposeful sequence of events that unfold naturally.
Conclusion	Abrupt ending. No concluding statement	Ends with a concluding statement that does not clearly follow from the narrative.	Ends with a concluding statement that follows from the narrative.	Effectively ends with a strong concluding statement that follows from the narrative.
Organization & Transitions	Little to no attempt at organization.	Attempts to organize ideas, but transitional language is needed.	Organizes ideas in a logical way. Transitional language used.	Strong organization and transitional language used throughout.
Mechanics (Spelling & Grammar)	Distracting mechanical errors throughout.	Mechanical errors distract from the narrative at times.	A couple errors present, but they do not distract.	Mechanics reflect careful editing.