

Ten-Point Rubric - NARRATIVE

9-10 – Both a 9 and a 10 contain the following elements. A 10 also elicits a “Wow.”

- An interesting set-up, replete with sensory details
- A clear and unique foray into the rising action
- A thorough and suspenseful rising action that builds momentum
- A climax that is riveting, and/or a catharsis that is complete
- A denouement that is like the clearing of clouds after a storm
- Effective paragraphing – starting new paragraphs for each new person, place, time or topic
- Strong voice and sense of style
- Distinctive syntax
- Sophisticated diction
- Facility with mechanics

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- A set-up, replete with details
- A clear foray into the rising action
- Rising action that builds momentum
- A climax that is riveting, and/or a catharsis that is at least partially complete
- A denouement
- Mostly effective paragraphing – starting new paragraphs for each new person, place, time or topic
- Strong voice and sense of style OR
- Distinctive syntax OR
- Sophisticated diction OR
- Facility with mechanics

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- A set-up with some details
- Rising action that builds momentum
- A climax
- A denouement
- Partially effective paragraphing – starting new paragraphs for each new person, place, time or topic
- Strong voice and sense of style OR
- Distinctive syntax OR
- Sophisticated diction OR
- Facility with mechanics

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- A set-up with some details
- Rising action that builds momentum
- A climax AND/OR
- Denouement
- Some attempt at paragraphing – starting new paragraphs for each new person, place, time or topic
- A sense of style OR
- Partial facility with mechanics

4-5 – Both a 4 and a 5 contain the following elements. The difference is in matter of degree.

- Rising action
- Climax
- A sense of style OR
- Partial facility with mechanics or at least an earnest attempt by an English Language Learner

3 – Rising action and/or climax with WEAK mechanics; **2** – Climax only; **1** – Some attempt at writing, but off-topic