

Narrative Scoring Guidelines Grade 3

Appropriate to Task

- Student writing has at least 2 strong connections to the text.

Who (RL.3.3)

- Characters shown not told through the following. Each 2 instances gets 1 pt. 4 instances gets 2 pts.
 - thoughts narrated (Her heart pounded.);
 - dialogue (“You make me want to be a better person,” I told her.);
 - or actions (I stomped!).
- At least 3 purposeful dialogues, not rambling. Dialogue breaks to include action. Purposeful dialogue tags vary, but are not overdone and distracting. ‘Said’ has powerful invisibility at times. Tell, don’t show. Beware adverbs:
 - **Yes:** she said while breaking the contact of their gaze and flushing.
 - **No:** she said shyly.

When (RL.3.1)

- Time is described.
 - **Yes:** It was a sunny May afternoon.
 - **No:** One afternoon... .

Where (RL.3.1)

- Detailed description of location.
 - **Yes:** In my mom’s tulip garden... .
 - **No:** In the garden... .

Goal: What Does the Character Do or Want to Do?

- Character’s everyday life is disrupted, then responds after inciting incident with a goal that launches plot.

Plot: What Happens? (W.3.3)

- Several events that are well sequenced, unfold naturally and relate to each other.
- Character continually respond to events as the story takes place, not just do so once.
- Several temporal words (then, after) or phrases (We left the house.) that help the story flow.
- A detail can be a well-chosen adjective, a phrase, figurative language or a full sentence that elaborates on the action and enables the reader to picture the event. Every 3 details gets 1 pt. Needs 15 instances to get full 5 pts.

Ending (W3.3)

- Closure follows from story. It ties story together. “I had fun” is not enough.
 - Clue/info revealed, Last twist, Objective/goal achieved, Surprise, Encircle back.....

How Does the Character Respond? (W.3.3, RL.3.2)

- Final response goes beyond ‘we had a great time’ to convey a meaningful after thought or lesson.
 - Memory, feeling, hope, growth, discovery, revelation, resonance/insight, hint, decision, wonder
- Central message is attempted but unclear = 1pt. Central message is clearly developed through the events and brought home in ending wind down = 2 pts.

Conventions (L.3.1-2)

- Refer to grade level CCSS for grade level expectations.
- Spelling errors: less than 5/page.
- Grammar/punctuation errors: less than 3/page.