Personal Narrative Marking Rubric

Student Name_____

	5 Standard of Excellence	4 Exceeds Acceptable Standard	3 Meets Acceptable Standard	2 Needs Improvement to Meet the Acceptable Standard
Content	-events consistently fit the story -contains specific details -creative and enjoyable for the reader -maintains first person point of view -maintains past tense -focus on a single significant event -consistently believable	-most events fit the story -most details are specific -holds the readers' interest -maintains tense most of the time -focus on a single main event -believable	-Some events are vague or lacking in detail -details are general -focus is on more than one event -ideas may be repetitive -parts may be unclear or confusing	-events are unclear and confusing to the reader -lacking important information and details to communicate the events effectively
Organization	-beginning grabs reader's attention -events are effectively organized and paragraphed -ending ties events together and leaves the reader feeling satisfied -establishes clear connections between events, actions, details and characters -balance between beginning, middle and end	 -interesting beginning -most events are effectively organized and paragraphed -ending in proportion to the story -connections between events, actions, detail and characters for most of the story 	-story has a beginning middle and end -some events are effectively organized -writer has attempted to paragraph properly -some connections established between events, actions, detail and characters	-beginning is too short and/or doesn't contain enough information -story is not in balance -confusing order -connections are missing -ending is not present and/or the story ends to abruptly and does not satisfy the reader
Sentence Structure	-sentences are complete -a variety of sentence lengths are used -a variety of words are used to begin sentences -sentences add flow and rhythm to the story	-most sentences are complete -some variety of sentence length or transitions -most sentences add flow to the story	-contains many incomplete or fragmented sentences -some repetition of sentence beginnings or transitions -some parts of the story do not flow due to sentence structure	-contains several incomplete or fragmented sentences -repetitive sentence beginnings -story has awkward wording, does not flow
Vocabulary	 -uses specific and precise words to create vivid images and enrich details -strong verbs -show vs. tell -use of simile, onomatopoeia, personification, hyperbole, idiom or metaphor (3 or more) 	-uses some precise words to create images and enrich details -demonstrates and attempt to use showing vs. telling and figurative language (2) -some strong verbs	-writer attempts to use interesting words and to show vs. tell -attempts use of at least two of the writing techniques -attempt to use strong verbs -figurative language (1)	-writer did not use the writing process to choose precise words -did not use any of the writing techniques taught -verbs are not strong
Conventions	-has control of mechanics; punctuation, capitalization, spelling, indenting for new paragraphs (dialogue) -tense is consistent -clarity of communication	-few errors in writing mechanics -tense is usually maintained -communication of ideas is clear -few errors which impeded meaning	-Story contains several errors in writing mechanics -tense varies -errors occasionally impeded meaning	-story contains several errors that interfere with the reading and enjoyment of the story -tense varies considerably