**PSSA GRADES 6–8 NARRATIVE SCORING GUIDELINES**

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| **Score Point** | **Description** |
| **4** | * Distinctly established context and point of view that effectively orient the reader and introduce the narrator and/or characters * Skillful narrative pattern/storyline that clearly sequences events and provides a conclusion * Thorough elaboration that effectively supports the writer's purpose * Effective use of narrative techniques to develop characters, experiences, and/or events * Effective use of a variety of transitional words and phrases * Precise control of literary devices, sensory language, and sentence structure that clearly conveys experiences and events * Consistent control of sentence formation * Few errors may be present in grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation; errors present do not interfere with meaning. |
| **3**  **DRAFT** | * Clearly established context and point of view that orients the reader and introduces the narrator and/or characters * Adequate narrative pattern/storyline that sequences events; minor interruptions to the sequence may occur * Adequate elaboration that supports the writer’s purpose * Adequate use of narrative techniques to develop characters, experiences, and/or events * Appropriate use of transitional words and/or phrases * Appropriate control of literary devices, sensory language, and sentence structure that conveys experiences and events * Adequate control of sentence formation * Some errors may be present in grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation; errors present seldom interfere with meaning. |
| **2** | * Weakly established context and point of view that inconsistently orients the reader and introduces the narrator and/or characters * Weak narrative pattern/storyline that inconsistently sequences events; interruptions to the sequence may detract from the story * Weak elaboration that somewhat supports the writer’s purpose * Inconsistent/limited use of narrative techniques * Inconsistent/limited use of transitional words and/or phrases * Limited control of literary devices, sensory language, and sentence structure that inconsistently conveys experiences and/or events * Limited control of sentence formation * Errors may be present in grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation; errors present may interfere with meaning. |
| **1** | * Minimally established context and/or point of view * Minimal narrative pattern/storyline that may or may not sequence events * Minimal elaboration that may or may not support the writer’s purpose * Minimal use of narrative techniques * Minimal use of transitional words and/or phrases * Minimal control of literary devices, sensory language, and sentence structure * Minimal control of sentence formation * Many errors may be present in grammar, usage, spelling, and punctuation; errors present often interfere with meaning. |