

Project Based Short Story Assessment Grading Rubric

	A	B	C+	C	C-
Setting	The setting is clearly presented and has an impact on the story. The reader will experience the story through the writer's use of sensory language. A significant amount of the story is SHOWN rather than just told.	The setting is clear but may not have much of an impact on the story. An attempt to use some sensory language is present. Some of the story is shown rather than told.	The setting may be unclear or not be addressed at all. There is very little to no sensory language present. The story is mostly told rather than shown.		
Characterization	Characters are strongly developed as individuals. The reader learns about the main character(s) through appearance, actions, thoughts and speech. All characters remain true to themselves throughout the story and have been flushed out with a past and a future.	The main character(s) have identifiable characteristics that are reasonably well developed through most of the following: appearance, actions, thoughts and speech. They may seem to lack the depth of having a past or a future.	Characters are not clearly drawn. They may exist as little more than a name and a description or the writer may be relying on a stereotype. Characters may be inconsistent or may lack enough detail for the reader to form a judgment.		
Plot	The central conflict is clearly identifiable and convincingly important to the characters. All actions form a chain of events, each leading to a new situation. This linking of events and situations will move the plot along, leading up to the climax in a logical and meaningful way. The characters will struggle with their problems in interesting and significant ways on their journey through the climax. The story will wrap up with a satisfying resolution.	The central conflict is clear and important to the characters. The chain of events that lead to new situations may lack development. The characters will struggle with their problems. The story will build up to the climax which will lead to a resolution that ties up most all of the loose ends of the story.	The conflict may be confusing or non-existent. There may be a clear conflict but its importance to the characters is never addressed. The action may be little more than a series of events. The characters may be passively engaged/there is no evidence of a struggle. The story may lack a climax and resolution or else they are present but are not convincingly tied in with the rest of the story.		

<p>Style/Voice</p> <p>The author's voice and tone are appropriate and enhance the story. The use of dialogue, figurative language and descriptive language help the reader experience the story. Sentences vary in length and type. The movement of the story from the beginning, to the middle, to the end is handled in a fluent and logical manner.</p>	<p>The author's voice and tone do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the story. There may be a forced use of dialogue, figurative language and descriptive language, or the attempt lacks development. Writing is workman-like but the meaning is clear. The transition from the beginning, to the middle, to the end may be choppy or awkward.</p>	<p>The author's voice and tone are confusing and interfere with the reader's understanding of the story. Sentences may need to be reread for meaning. Transitions may be lacking. The sequencing of events from the beginning, to the middle, to the end of the story may be disjointed.</p>
<p>Conventions</p> <p>The story has been carefully proofread and contains few or no errors in punctuation, sentence structure, grammar, spelling or punctuation. The final copy is neat and properly formatted.</p>	<p>The story has been well proofread. There may be some errors but they do not interfere with the understanding of the story. The final copy is neat and properly formatted.</p>	<p>The story shows little evidence of proofreading. Too many errors distract from the meaning of the story. The story may not be "final copy" quality.</p>
<p>Overall</p> <p>All of the elements of the story work together in a successful way. The setting, characters and plot will combine to create a meaningful and logical narrative.</p>	<p>The story is competently told. Some of the elements of the story may be present but they may seem forced, not completely blending together to enhance the narrative.</p>	<p>The elements of the story work in isolation from each other. The meaningfulness and logic of the narrative may be confusing or absent.</p>

Total: _____ Grade: _____

Comments: _____
