

KAMM WRITING ASSESSMENT – NARRATIVE SCORING RUBRIC

IDEAS AND CONTENT

Rating of 3

- Main Ideas:** clear and focused, but could be presented in a more interesting manner
- Development:** the writing seems to be written from experience but lacks personal insights; shows promise; has some trouble going from general observations to specifics; ideas are basic and clear, but not detailed or expanded to show depth of understanding
- Insight:** shapes ideas and makes some connections; writes from experience
- Originality:** exhibits clear ideas

Rating of 2

- Main Ideas:** starting to define and control topic, but not there yet
- Development:** sketchy details; lack of development; no central theme or story line
- Insight:** few connections made among ideas
- Originality:** through generally clear, includes some off-topic information

Rating of 1

- Main Ideas:** no clear purpose or central theme; topic not well defined
- Development:** information is very limited or unclear; no sense of direction to guide development
- Insight:** no connections among ideas made; reads like a collection of random thoughts
- Originality:** reads like a collection of random thoughts

ORGANIZATION

Rating of 3

- Structure:** strong enough to move the reader from point to point without undue confusion; has a recognizable beginning, middle, and end
- Pacing & Sequencing:** easy to follow and understand
- Introduction & Conclusion:** both present; one is truly effective, one is only functional
- Transitions:** uses words that show a transition; moves the reader from idea to idea

Rating of 2

- Structure:** beginning to take shape; feels more random than purposeful
- Pacing & Sequencing:** main ideas could be more effectively arranged and delivered
- Introduction & Conclusion:** one present, not both
- Transitions:** present but vague

Rating of 1

- Structure:** lacks a sense of direction; ideas, details, or events seem strung together in a random fashion
- Pacing & Sequencing:** no clear sense of pace or direction to carry readers from point to point
- Introduction & Conclusion:** neither are present
- Transitions:** entirely missing

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VOICE

Rating of 3

- **Energy & Passion:** writer is involved and speaks directly to the reader in a way that is engaging
- **Presentation of Ideas:** moments of pleasantness and personality
- **Writer’s Involvement:** strong, but could improve involvement in the text; reveals some details about the writer
- **Audience Awareness:** writers seems aware of an audience

Rating of 2

- **Energy & Passion:** writer is not always aware of an audience
- **Presentation of Ideas:** tone could better suit topic, purpose, and/or audience
- **Writer’s Involvement:** writer’s voice may emerge strongly on occasion
- **Audience Awareness:** little awareness of an audience; readers must work hard at remaining engaged

Rating of 1

- **Energy & Passion:** writer does not seem aware of audience
- **Presentation of Ideas:** writing is mechanical and without expression
- **Writer’s Involvement:** writing is mechanical and without expression
- **Audience Awareness:** no understanding of audience; no attempt to involve readers; readers must work hard to pay attention and gain information

WORD CHOICE

Rating of 3

- **Accuracy:** words capture meaning and convey the intended message in an interesting and natural way
- **Specificity:** language may be general but includes some variety of expression
- **Descriptiveness:** energetic verbs and vivid modifiers are occasionally used effectively
- **Appeal:** descriptive adjectives and adverbs are used to enhance meaning; writer attempts to use colorful vocabulary

Rating of 2

- **Accuracy:** words convey the message but not in an interesting way
- **Specificity:** writer makes simple word choices or uses words, phrases, or sentences repetitiously
- **Descriptiveness:** dull verbs and few modifiers are used
- **Appeal:** some originality and freshness; some striking words and phrases catch interest, even though they may not be accurate

Rating of 1

- **Accuracy:** writer struggles with a limited vocabulary, searching for words to convey the message
- **Specificity:** difficult to understand and lacks meaning; words are misused or omitted
- **Descriptiveness:** words do not convey meaning
- **Appeal:** bland, unoriginal; limited vocabulary simply does not speak to audience

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SENTENCE FLUENCY

Rating of 3

- **Reading Ease:** writing generally has an easy flow and rhythm; easy to read aloud; sounds natural, the way someone might talk or speak
- **Structure:** shows good control over simple sentence structure; variety in sentence beginnings, length, and structure
- **Variety:** good variety but occasionally tends to favor a particular sentence pattern
- **Sentence Beginnings:** frequently favors a particular beginning; somewhat effective in moving readers from one sentence to the next

Rating of 2

- **Reading Ease:** writing moves along but lacks consistent flow and rhythm; some parts of writing flow when read aloud, other parts may sound awkward
- **Structure:** writing contains a mix of sentences and fragments; some variation in sentence beginnings, length, or structure
- **Variety:** often favors a particular pattern; little variation in sentence length and structure
- **Sentence Beginnings:** favors a particular beginning; rarely effective in moving readers from one sentence to the next

Rating of 1

- **Reading Ease:** writing is difficult to follow or read aloud; sentences do not sound natural or at all like a person would talk; reader may need to reread to understand what is meant
- **Structure:** writing is composed primarily of sentence fragments, phrases, or run-on sentences
- **Variety:** word patterns are very monotonous; no variety in length or structure
- **Sentence Beginnings:** repetitive patterns make readers weary; not effective in moving readers from one sentence to the next

CONVENTIONS

Rating of 3

- **Control:** shows reasonable control over a limited range of standard writing conventions; errors may be somewhat distracting, but meaning makes sense to the reader
- **Error Frequency:** few; occasionally serious enough to be mildly distracting
- **Punctuation:** terminal (end-of-sentence) punctuation is evident and correct; awareness of other punctuation is evident even if used improperly
- **Publication Readiness:** more thorough editing is still needed

Rating of 2

- **Control:** weak control over a small range of standard spelling, usage, and grammar conventions
- **Error Frequency:** numerous or serious enough to distract readers frequently
- **Punctuation:** terminal (end-of-sentence) punctuation is sometimes missing or incorrect; other punctuation is missing
- **Publication Readiness:** substantial editing is still required

Rating of 1

- **Control:** little or no control over standard spelling, usage, and grammar conventions
- **Error Frequency:** continually distracts readers; readers must read once to decode, then again for meaning
- **Punctuation:** missing entirely or not related to sentence structure
- **Publication Readiness:** extensive editing is required