

East Whittier City School District, Grade 3
Scoring Rubric for Narrative, Descriptive, and Letter Writing

1) PURPOSE AND AUDIENCE (WHY?)	
4	Thoroughly addresses the prompt and stays on topic with relevant facts, details, and/or explanations
3	Generally addresses the prompt and stayed on topic with mostly relevant facts, details, and/or explanations
2	Demonstrates little understanding of prompt and strays from topic with some facts, details, and/or explanations
1	Lacks understanding of prompt but may contain little or no related facts, details, and/or explanations

2) ORGANIZATION AND FOCUS (PARAGRAPH STRUCTURE)	
4	Relevant hook, topic sentence, interesting or engaging details, and conclusion with insight
3	Appropriate topic sentence, simple supporting details, and conclusion
2	Basic topic sentence, some details, and a conclusion
1	Lacks adequate organization, may be brief or rambles , difficult to understand

3) SENTENCE STRUCTURE	
4	Consistently uses a variety of sentence types with transitional words, powerful verbs, interesting adjectives and modifiers
3	Uses a variety of sentence types with transitional words, powerful verbs, interesting adjectives and modifiers
2	Simple sentences with little or no use of transitional words, powerful verbs, interesting adjectives and modifiers
1	Incomplete or incoherent sentences

4) LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS	
4	Contains few , if any, errors in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling); errors do not interfere with understanding the writing
3	Contains some errors in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling); errors do not interfere with understanding the writing
2	Contains several errors in the conventions of the English language(grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling); errors may interfere with understanding the writing
1	Contains serious errors in the conventions of the English language (grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling); errors interfere with understanding the writing.

5) NARRATIVE	
4	Provides a thoroughly developed sequence of significant events to relate ideas, observations, and/or memories; includes vivid descriptive language and sensory details that enable the reader to visualize the events or experiences
3	Provides an adequately developed sequence of significant events to relate ideas, observations, and/or memories; includes some descriptive language and sensory details that enable the reader to visualize the events or experiences
2	Provides a minimally developed sequence of significant events to relate ideas, observations, and/or memories; includes limited descriptive language and sensory details that enable the reader to visualize the events or experiences
1	Lacks a sequence of events to relate ideas, observations, and/or memories; lacks descriptive language and sensory details that enable the reader to visualize the events or experiences

5) DESCRIPTIVE	
4	Clearly describes people, places, things, or experiences; uses a variety of interesting adjectives that give vivid images (e.g. similes-metaphors); emerging use of precise active verbs
3	Adequately describes people, places, things, or experiences; uses simple, sensory adjectives to provide an image of person/place/thing; emerging use of active verbs
2	Minimally describes people, places, things, or experiences; uses simple, sensory adjectives; limited use of active verbs
1	Lacks a description of people, places, things, or experiences; includes few or no adjectives; uses no active verbs

5) PERSONAL & FORMAL LETTERS	
4	Clearly shows awareness of the knowledge and interests of the audience; includes all essential elements of a letter, (date, greeting, body, closing, signature) with correct punctuation; uses correct letter format (indentation and placement)
3	Awareness of the interests of the audience; includes most essential elements of a letter
2	Shows minimal understanding of the interests of the audience; lacks two essential elements of a letter
1	Demonstrates no understanding of the interests of the audience; lacks three or more elements of a letter