9th & 10th Grade Narrative Essay Rubric

	1 Below-level	2 Slightly below-level	3 At-level	4 Exceeds-level
Exposition:	The main event or subject of the story is vague and unclear without development towards a cohesive story.	The writer tells a story that is occasionally vague or difficult to follow. The main idea is clear but the organization of the narrative needs improvement.	The writer narrates a clear story with a sequence, but there is room to add descriptive detail.	The writer narrates a story proficiently, using a consistent voice to explain the main conflict, event or subject and uses descriptive language to tell a rich, engaging story.
Organization: .	The plot of the narrative is vague and the sequence is confusing to the reader.	A basic plot is obvious but the sequence does not create a coherent whole.	The writer uses narrative techniques to establish a clear story line and uses description to establish the story line.	The writer uses a variety of narrative techniques to establish the story line and uses description and reflection to enhance the story.
Style and Conventions:	The writing lacks clarity due to frequency of mistakes using conventions (grammar and spelling). This impairs the reader's ability to follow the story. The style may be inappropriate for the audience.	Though there are mistakes in using conventions, the reader can still follow the story line.	The writer has minimal mistakes using basic conventions (grammar and spelling) and properly develops the story in an organized style.	The writing is absolutely clear and coherent due to the writer's use of both proper conventions and stylistic devices including organization, word choice and detailed description.
Conclusion:	The narrative lacks a conclusion and does not resolve or reflect upon what is learned.	There is a conclusion, but it is unclear how it relates directly to the story.	The conclusion logically follows the events presented in the narrative.	The conclusion reflects directly learned or experienced in the narrative and comments clearly on what is resolved or understood as a result.