	Focus	Elaboration	Organization	Integration
6	Subject and unifying event clear and maintained with the event commented upon by the end of the composition Reactions are relevant to unifying event Has effective closing	All major episodes/reactions developed by specific detail Some episodes and reactions may be developed with more detail than others (not necessarily balanced or even) Development in depth Word choice enhances specificity Voice is appropriate for topic, purpose, and audience	Narrative structure is clear – sequence of episodes moves through time with a beginning, a middle, and an ending without noticeable gaps Most major episodes appropriately paragraphed Coherence and cohesion demonstrated with effective devices (e.g., transitions, pronouns, parallel structure, etc.) Varied sentence structure and/or word choice produce cohesion	Fully-developed composition for grade level Clear and purposeful Focus; in-depth, balanced Elaboration; sequence of episodes is coherently and cohesively developed throughout the composition
5	Subject and unifying event clear and maintained with the event commented upon by the end of the composition Reactions are present, most are relevant to unifying event Has closing	Most episodes/reactions developed by specific detail; some may be general Some depth Word choice may enhance specificity Voice may be appropriate for topic, purpose, and audience	 Narrative structure is evident – sequence of episodes moves through time with a beginning, a middle, and an ending with few gaps Most major episodes appropriately paragraphed Coherence and cohesion demonstrated with most transitional devices appropriate (not redundant or intrusive) Coherence may depend on holistic structure (e.g., chronology) May include minor digressions Some varied sentence structure and/or word choice produce cohesion 	Developed composition for grade level All features are not equally well-developed throughout the composition
4	 Subject and unifying event clear and maintained Reactions are present, but still may be implied May lack closing 	 Some episodes/reactions developed by specific detail; some may be general Sufficient Elaboration but has limited depth Voice may be present but inconsistent 	 Narrative structure is evident – sequence of episodes moves through time with a beginning, a middle, and an ending Some appropriate paragraphing Some evidence of coherence (paragraph to paragraph) and cohesion (sentence to sentence); may depend on holistic structure (e.g., chronology) If present, transitions may be simplistic, but not intrusive May include minor digressions 	Bare-bones-developed composition for grade level Simple and clear, presenting nothing more than the essentials Limited depth
3	 Subject clear, but unifying event is not; reader can infer unifying event Multiple events without unifying umbrella statement No reactions – or reactions are inappropriate to subject/event Lacks sufficiency to demonstrate a developed Focus 	 A list of episodes and/or reactions that may have some extensions May be mostly general Lacks sufficiency to demonstrate developed Elaboration No evidence of suitable voice 	 Noticeable narrative structure but the reader must infer it; movement through time with significant gaps May evidence some inappropriate paragraphing May include inappropriate transitions that disrupt progression of ideas May have major digressions Lacks sufficiency to demonstrate developed Organization 	 Partially developed Some (or one) of the feature(s) are not sufficiently formed but all are present Inference is usually required

	Focus	Elaboration	Organization	Integration
2	Subject and event may be vague or lack clarity Unrelated ideas or major drift from Focus No reactions Off-mode response (NOT narrative structure showing a sequence through time) Insufficient writing to determine that the subject and/or unifying event can be maintained	A list of episodes or reactions There may be insufficient writing to determine that Elaboration can be maintained	Structure attempted but may not be narrative (Off-mode) Limited evidence of understanding paragraphing Lacks purposeful ordering of sentences (e.g., sentences could be arranged in almost any order) Insufficient writing to determine that Organization can be sustained	Attempts to address the assignment, but only rudiments of techniques for forming Focus, Elaboration, and Organization can be detected Some confusion and/or disjointedness Lacks narrative structure May be insufficient writing to determine that the features can be maintained
1	 Subject and event may be absent, or if present, may be limited or confusing Insufficient writing to show that criteria are met 	Elaboration absent or confusing Insufficient writing to show that criteria are met	 Confusing; little or no attempt at structure Little or no evidence of understanding paragraphing Insufficient writing to show that criteria are met 	Does not fulfill the assignment; barely deals with the topic; or does not present most or all of the features Insufficient writing to show that criteria are met

	Conventions	
3	Strong knowledge of Conventions is demonstrated	
	Standards of punctuation, capitalization. and spelling are consistently followed – may have minor lapses	
	May have minor errors in usage and sentence formation	
	A variety of sentence structures is evident	
2	Partial knowledge of Conventions is evident	
-	Severity and density of errors constitute a noticeable pattern	
	Little attempt at varying sentence structures	
1	Little or no discernable knowledge of Conventions	
-	Severity and density of errors is such that meaning is impaired	
	Sentence structure is simplistic or in error	