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| ***Creative Fiction Rubric*** | **Exemplary** | **Proficient** | **Satisfactory** | **Beginning** |
| **Focus and Content** | * Title is creative and evocative. * A sophisticated internal and/or external conflict is clearly present. * Each character and event helps the reader understand the story’s purpose. * Dialogue is used to drive characterization and conflict. * Vivid, compelling details of plot, setting, and character enrich the narrative. The author takes risks that make these details seem fresh. | * Title is strong and relevant. * An internal or external conflict is clearly present. * Characters and events mostly help the reader understand the story’s purpose. * Dialogue supports characterization and conflict. * Clear, ample details about plot, setting, and character enhance the narrative. | * Title is ordinary or unclear. * An internal or external conflict is present, but is weak or unclear. * Characters and events are sometimes weak or confuse the story’s purpose. * Dialogue often does not support characterization or conflict. * Details of plot, setting, and character exist in the narrative, but some may not be clear enough or may not clearly support purpose. | * Title is missing or irrelevant. * Conflict is absent or confusing. * Characters and events do not demonstrate an awareness of purpose. * Dialogue is lacking and/or does not add to story. * The narrative may lack essential details or contain too many irrelevant details. |
| **Organization** | * Organization of story elements is interesting and sophisticated. * Sophisticated transitions connect story elements. * Conclusion provides closure and connects meaningfully to the central theme. | * Organization of story elements is clear. * Transitions connect story elements. * Conclusion provides closure and connects to the central theme. | * Organization of story elements may sometimes be unclear. * Transitions may be rare or awkward. * Conclusion provides a limited sense of closure. | * Story lacks clear organization. * Story lacks clear transitions. * Conclusion does not provide closure. |
| **Style** | * Figurative language and literary conventions are used creatively and successfully to convey setting, plot, and character. * Compelling tone enriches the purpose. * Reader can distinguish the character’s voice from the writer’s tone. | * Figurative language and literary conventions are used to convey setting, plot, and character. * Tone contributes to the purpose. * Reader can usually distinguish the character’s voice from the writer’s tone. | * Figurative language and literary conventions are sparse and/or not always effective. * Tone is inconsistent or weak. * Reader finds it hard to distinguish the character’s voice from the writer’s tone. | * Figurative language and literary conventions are, absent, irrelevant, or confusing. * Tone is lacking. * Reader cannot distinguish the character’s voice from the writer’s tone. |
| **Conventions** | * Contains no spelling or usage errors. * Dialogue is punctuated correctly. * Point of view and verb tense are consistent. | * Contains few spelling or usage errors. * Dialogue is mostly punctuated correctly. * Point of view and verb tense are mostly consistent. | * Contains errors that generally do not distract from meaning. * Dialogue is punctuated incorrectly. * Point of view and verb tense are inconsistent. | * Contains errors that significantly interfere with meaning. |

**Comments: Grade:**