Name: _____ Date: _____

Narrative Writing Checklist

	Grade 4	NOT YET	STARTING TO	YES!
	Structure			
Overall	I wrote the important part of an event bit by bit and took out unimportant parts.	☐	☐	☐
Lead	I wrote a beginning in which I showed what was happening and where, getting readers into the world of the story.	☐	☐	☐
Transitions	I showed how much time went by with words and phrases that mark time such as *just then* and *suddenly* (to show when things happened quickly) or *after a while* and *a little later* (to show when a little time passed).	☐	☐	☐
Ending	I wrote an ending that connected to the beginning or the middle of the story.	☐	☐	☐
	I used action, dialogue, or feeling to bring my story to a close.	☐	☐	☐
Organization	I used paragraphs to separate the different parts or times of the story or to show when a new character was speaking.	☐	☐	☐
	Development			
Elaboration	I added more to the heart of my story, including not only actions and dialogue but also thought and feelings.	☐	☐	☐
Craft	I showed *why* characters did what they did by including their thinking.	☐	☐	☐
	I made some parts of the story go quickly, some slowly.	☐	☐	☐
	I included precise and sometimes sensory details and used figurative language (simile, metaphor, personification) to bring my story to life.	☐	☐	☐
	I used a storytelling voice and conveyed the emotion or tone of my story through description, phrases, dialogue, and thoughts.	☐	☐	☐
	Language Conventions			
Spelling	I used what I knew about word families and spelling rules to help me spell and edit. I used the word wall and dictionaries when needed.	☐	☐	☐
Punctuation	When writing long, complex sentences, I used commas to make them clear and correct.	☐	☐	☐

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