

Descriptive Essay Rubric

0Title of Essay reflects content: Yes No (2 points)

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Introduction and Thesis Assignment Fulfillment	Introductory paragraph clearly states subject of essay and captures reader's attention. Thesis statement is effectively crafted. The story presents a unique take on an original fairytale using details, humor, or twists in the plot that help to develop a new perspective of the villain.	Introductory paragraph states subject of essay but is not particularly engaging. The story presents a somewhat original take on a fairytale using details, humor, or twists in the plot that help to develop a new perspective of the villain.	Introductory paragraph attempts to state subject of essay but does not contain a clear thesis. The fractured fairytale is predictable and differs very little from the original story. It does not offer a new perspective of the villain.	No attempt is made to state the subject of the essay in an introductory paragraph. No attempt is made to produce an original fairytale from a villain's perspective.
Sensory Details	Essay includes engaging details that appeal to the five senses (taste, touch, sound, sight, smell).	Includes some details that appeal to the five senses.	Includes only a few details that appeal to the senses.	Includes no details that appeal to the senses.
Word Choice	Writer uses vivid words and phrases that linger or draw pictures in the reader's mind, and the choice and placement of the words seems accurate, natural and not forced.	Writer uses vivid words and phrases that linger or draw pictures in the reader's mind, but occasionally the words are used inaccurately or seem overdone.	Writer uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety, sophistication, or flair.	Writer uses a limited vocabulary that does not communicate strongly or capture the reader's interest. Jargon or clichés may detract from the meaning.
Figurative Language Simile/Metaphor/ Personification, etc.	Writer effectively uses simile, metaphor, and personification to describe the subject.	Writer uses one example of simile, metaphor, or personification to describe the subject.	Writer may try to use simile, metaphor, and personification but does so incorrectly.	Writer does not include simile, metaphor, or personification in essay.

<p>Development and Organization (paragraphs clearly showing choice of either chronological, spatial, or order of importance)</p> <p>Sentence Structure (Variety, Clarity, Fluency)</p>	<p>Writer organizes the essay in multiple, fully-developed paragraphs with transitions and links that connect the body paragraphs back to the thesis.</p> <p>All sentences are well-constructed with varied structure.</p>	<p>Writer organizes the essay in multiple paragraphs with some transitions and links that connect the body paragraphs back to the thesis.</p> <p>Most sentences are well-constructed with varied structure.</p>	<p>Writer organizes the essay in paragraphs that need further development. Transitions and links to the thesis are inadequate.</p> <p>Most sentences are well-constructed but have a similar structure.</p>	<p>Writer does not organize the essay in paragraphs. There are no transitions or links back to the thesis.</p> <p>Sentences lack structure and appear incomplete or rambling.</p>
<p>Grammar and Mechanics</p>	<p>There are no errors in grammar or punctuation.</p>	<p>There are some errors; however, these errors do not distract the reader.</p>	<p>There are errors that distract the reader.</p>	<p>There are serious errors that interfere with the reader's understanding of the essay.</p>

Total Score: _____/32