

Short Story Grading Rubric

CATEGORY	Exceptional (5)	Good (4)	Fair (3-2)	Poor (1-0)
Plot Development	The plot is fully developed: setting, conflict, climax, and qualifying resolution are readily identifiable and well detailed. Critical events/problems/resolutions in the story are vividly and clearly presented.	The plot is moderately developed: setting, conflict, climax, and qualifying resolution are basically present. Some of the critical events/problems are explained clearly throughout the story and resolution is somewhat effective in the story.	Only parts of the plot are developed: time or place may be missing; main conflict or climax may not be apparent; concluding event may not qualify as resolution. Main events/problems are not clearly explained throughout the story. There are some vague points in the storyline which are confusing for the reader.	The author has not developed a plot: common story elements are not identifiable. The whole story lacks a plausible storyline, which prevents the reader to understand the events.
Organization	The story is very well organized. One idea or scene follows another in a logical sequence with clear transitions.	The story is pretty well organized. One idea or scene may seem out of place. Clear transitions are used.	The story is a little hard to follow. The transitions are sometimes not clear.	Ideas and scenes seem to be randomly arranged.
Mechanics	The story contains no errors in grammar, usage, or mechanics.	The story contains few minor errors in grammar, usage, or mechanics.	The story contains many and/or serious errors in grammar, usage, or mechanics; may interfere with reading.	The story contains so many errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics that errors block reading.
Creativity	The story contains many creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has really used his/her imagination.	The story contains a few creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has used his/her imagination.	The story contains a few creative details and/or descriptions, but they distract from the story. The author has tried to use his/her imagination.	There is little evidence of creativity in the story. The author does not seem to have used much imagination.
Requirements	All of the written requirements (Word format typed, 1.5 spaced, word limit, font, word limit) were met.	Almost all (about 90%) the written requirements were met.	Most (about 75%) of the written requirements were met, but several were not.	Many requirements were not met.

CATEGORY	Points Possible					Points Earned
Plot Development	5	4	3-2	1-0	x 2	
Organization	5	4	3-2	1-0	x 2	
Mechanics	5	4	3-2	1-0	x 2	
Creativity	5	4	3-2	1-0	x 2	
Requirements	5	4	3-2	1-0	x 2	
						TOTAL x 2: