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| **Expectations** | **Beyond Proficient**  **(4)** | **Proficient**  **(3)** | **Developing toward proficiency (2)** | **Not Proficient**  **(1)** | **Score** |
| **Content/Organization** | ~Skillfully establishes a coherent storyline that addresses the prompt and has an engaging beginning, middle, and end (plot).  ~Includes an engaging lead.  ~Meets page requirement. | ~Establishes a coherent storyline that addresses the prompt and has evidence of a beginning, middle, and ending.  ~Meets page requirement. | ~Attempts a storyline but it lacks flow in parts and does not adequately address the prompt due to a lacking beginning, middle, or ending.  ~Almost meets page requirement. | ~Little to no storyline is established and there is little to no evidence of a beginning, middle, or ending.  ~Does not meet page requirement. |  |
| **Character** | ~Skillfully crafts one or more characters and employs effective dialogue. | ~Establishes at least a main character and employs effective dialogue. | ~Attempts to establish a character but more work is needed. An attempt is made in incorporating dialogue. | ~Little to no evidence of the creation of at least one character and little to no dialogue is present. |  |
| **Diction**  **(Vocabulary)** | ~Skillfully incorporates words to enhance the mood, tone, character, setting, etc. | ~Incorporates words to create mood, tone, character, setting, etc., at times. | ~Attempts to add diction in a few places, but it is not always effective. | ~Little to no evidence that diction is a priority. |  |
| **Syntax**  **(Sentence Structure)**  **Focus: Noun Gerunds** | ~Skillfully crafts varied sentence patterns to enhance the mood, tone, character, setting, etc.  ~Evidence of three correctly executed noun gerunds. | ~Incorporates varied sentence patterns to create mood, tone, character, setting, etc., at times.  ~Evidence of at two correctly executed noun gerunds. | ~Attempts varied sentence patterns in parts, but they are not always effective or grammatically correct.  ~At least one or more noun gerunds are attempted, but they are not executed correctly. | ~Little to no evidence of varied sentence patterns. |  |
| **Figurative Language/Imagery**  **(Voice/Tone)** | ~Skillfully incorporates figurative language and imagery throughout to enhance the reader’s experience. | ~Incorporates figurative language or imagery at times to enhance the reader’s experience. | ~Attempts to add figurative language or imagery, but it is not always effective and can detract from the reader’s experience. | ~Little to no attempt at incorporating figurative language or imagery. |  |
| **Conventions** | ~There are little to no grammatical or proofreading errors.  ~All dialogue is punctuated correctly. | ~There are several grammatical and/or proofreading errors, but none of them are major.  ~Most of the dialogue is punctuated correctly. | ~There are many grammatical and/or proofreading errors, which could include run-ons, ineffective fragments, wordiness, etc.  ~Dialogue does not follow rules. | ~There are too many errors, which makes the piece almost impossible to read. |  |
| **MLA** | ~Document has correct heading, a title, page numbers, and is in the correct format.  ~Works consulted page is perfect. | ~Document is lacking in one of the aforementioned areas.  ~Works consulted page has a few minor errors. | ~Document is lacking in two of the aforementioned areas.  ~Works consulted page does not meet minimum and/or is riddled with errors. | ~Document has little to no evidence of the MLA structure.  ~Works consulted page not included. |  |