

### 3-8th Grade "I Can" Narrative Rubric

Score	Statement of Purpose/Focus and Organization		Development: Elaboration and Language		Conventions L.2
	Narrative Focus W.3	Organization W.3	Elaboration of Narrative L.3	Language and Vocabulary L.1	
<b>I Can Statements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can write a focused narrative.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can write plot that is unified and complete.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can elaborate using details dialogue and description.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can clearly and effectively express the experiences and events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can write with a strong command of language.</li> <li>I can consistently use effective punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectively establishes a setting, narrator and/or characters, and point of view.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective, consistent use of a variety of transitions.</li> <li>Logical sequence of events</li> <li>Effective opening and closure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectively uses a variety of techniques to enhance the story</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few or no errors in usage and sentence formation</li> <li>Effective use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequately establishes a setting, narrator and/or characters, and point of view.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate use of a variety of transitions.</li> <li>Adequate sequence of events</li> <li>Adequate opening and closure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequately uses a variety of techniques to enhance the story</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor errors in usage and sentence formation</li> <li>Adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequately establishes a setting, narrator and/or characters, and point of view.</li> </ul> <p><i>One is not strong Setting narrator characters point of view</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inconsistent use of basic transitions.</li> <li>Uneven sequence of events</li> <li>Weak opening and closure</li> <li>Weak connection among ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uneven and inconsistent use of techniques to enhance the story</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uneven and inconsistent use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequent errors in usage and sentence formation that detract from the meaning</li> <li>Inconsistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not maintain a setting, narrator and/or characters, and point of view.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few or no basic transitions.</li> <li>Frequent or extra ideas that take away from plot</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal or nonexistent use of techniques</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>limited use of language</li> <li>little sense of purpose</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequent and severe errors that obscure meaning</li> </ul>

Miss Lowry  
Example Narrative

Green leaves were rustling as a slight breeze whirled around the yard. It was a warm summer evening, filled with the floral scent of daffodils, marigolds, and dandelions. Kelsey and Alex were tending to the garden, pulling weeds and planting new additions in the landscape. They had offered to help their parents plant while they visited for dinner. While mom and dad were inside, Kelsey and Alex busily planted new orange and magenta flowers. They were accompanied by Scooter and Jeter, the best canine gardening assistants anyone could ask for. With his blonde fur shining in the sunlight, Scooter rolled around in the grass, careful not to disrupt any of the flowers. Jeter, on the other hand, was coating his dark brown fur in mud and flower petals sprinting through the flower patches. He was still a puppy and was learning how to play outside without destroying everything like a tornado.

After a few minutes, while pulling some dandelions out of the dirt, Kelsey mentioned, "This is such a great night! I'm glad we were able to spend it together, hang out with Mom and Dad, and get to play with the dogs. The daffodils are looking great!" Alex, completely occupied by the routine of pulling weeds and planting new flowers, responded "Thanks, the space is really coming together. And the dogs are doing pretty well. I haven't even noticed them. Wait, where's Jeter?" Kelsey and Alex both glanced up from their work. Scooter was laying in the soft grass in the far corner of the yard, but Jeter was nowhere in sight. Both girls yelled for Jeter, but he was not in the yard or around the sides of the house. "He must be around the street somewhere. How far could he have gone?" Alex said, while anxiously walking toward the street. Kelsey followed and both started down the gravel road.

Suddenly, a brown flash of fur caught Alex's eye. Her head whipped around to the opposite end of the street to see Jeter running back in our direction. Only, he was not alone. Hanging out of his mouth were feathers, brown feathers. Confused and slightly worried, Kelsey asked, "Umm, what is in his mouth? Is it an animal? What in the world did he do?" Both girls started running towards the small brown puppy, who looks as proud as could be coming back with his prize. As he pranced closer, it became clear as to what was hanging out of his mouth. Dangling from each side of Jeter's jaws, was a brown and white spotted chicken. Alex's eyes were as wide as saucers watching her puppy approach her feet with his new toy. As Jeter excitedly sat down and dropped the chicken, both girls were expecting the bird to be dead. However, the chicken, now with brown feathers sticking every which way and falling to the ground, jumped right up and started to sprint away from all the predators. Seeing this made Kelsey jump and run to the nearest fence post to perch on, and Alex scuttle backwards and trip into a ditch. It was as if the two were in a cartoon, running around like crazy.

After a minute of insanity, the two girls were now thinking logically. Kelsey said, "What do we do with this chicken? Your dog stole a chicken" Glancing at Jeter, who

looked thoroughly impressed with himself, Alex came to a realization, "He did steal a chicken. Oh my gosh he stole a chicken! What do we do? He must have smelled something and followed the scent, then thought it was a toy. He does have a few bird toys that he loves to play fetch with... I mean, it is kind of impressive he didn't kill that thing." Fully realizing that this poor chicken belonged to a neighbor down the street, Kelsey and Alex started after the frantic bird, which was now hiding under one of the lilac bushes lining the street. They positioned themselves on either side of the purple bush and lowered to their hands and knees, prepared to army crawl toward the new hiding place of the small chicken. Jeter took this opportunity to show his fetching skills, scurried under the floral bush and chased the bird out into the yard, quickly pouncing on top and pinning it to the ground. "No!" both girls exclaimed, and Jeter released the hen and Alex swooped in to grab the hostage bird.

Standing in the middle of the yard, dirt and twigs stuck to her arms and legs, Alex held the chicken far away from her body. A mix of emotions covered her face, terror, disgust, disbelief, and amusement. She chuckled to herself and then looked down at Jeter. "You are one naughty dog, but you still are pretty cute. Let's go give this chicken back and apologize to the neighbors," she said to Jeter as she started down the street. Probably thinking he was going to play with his new friend or toy, Jeter followed right behind Alex, keeping a close eye on the chicken. Kelsey stayed in the yard with Scooter, who hadn't moved since the incident occurred. He was too old for those games and adventures. What seemed like an hour later, Kelsey spotted Alex and Jeter walking back to the house. As they walked into the driveway, Alex exclaimed, "Well that was embarrassing. They just happened to be looking out their window when I was walking up, and met us on the doorsteps. I had to explain what Jeter did and apologize like twenty times! They must think we are crazy. I assured them it wouldn't happen again. Hopefully it doesn't!"

At last, the two girls could finish the gardening and put everything away. It was time for dinner and their parents were probably wondering what was taking so long. Deciding that the dogs could hang out in the kennel that was in the backyard while they had dinner, they walked Scooter and Jeter back to the giant kennel nestled in a lush green oasis. The dogs ran right in, and Kelsey went in to check the water bowl. While standing over the water bowl, Kelsey heard some fluttering coming from behind the doghouse. Looking around, she saw two grey and brown chickens, huddled up beside each other. "Alex!" she yelled, "You might want to see this." Confused, Alex came to peek around the house, and could not believe her eyes. "You have got to be kidding me. Well, Kels you grab one and I will grab another. Looks like we have some explaining to do. Jeter, you are staying here for sure." With shame in their eyes, the two girls walked in embarrassment down the street, not really knowing what they were going to say as they returned more chickens. But what they did know, was that Jeter was never going out of their sight, ever again.