



ETAWA

English Teachers Association
Western Australia

**UNPACKING THE NAPLAN
NARRATIVE MARKING GUIDE**

Narrative

- The NAPLAN definition:
- *A narrative is a time-ordered text that is used to narrate events and to create, entertain and emotionally move an audience. Other social purposes of narrative writing may be to inform, to persuade and to socialise. The main structural components of a narrative are the orientation, the complication and the resolution. Essential features of a narrative are the representation and development of character(s) and setting.*



Unpacking the marking guides - Narrative

The marking guide has

- 10 criteria

The manual has

- the 10 criteria pages
- annotated samples
- a general glossary of grammatical terms
- a reference list of spelling



Narrative Criteria

1	Audience	0-6	The writer's capacity to orient, engage and affect the reader
2	Text structure	0-4	The organisation of narrative features including orientation, complication and resolution into an appropriate and effective text structure
3	Ideas	0-5	The creation, selection and crafting of ideas for a narrative
4	Character and setting	0-4	Character: the portrayal and development of character Setting: the development of a sense of place, time and atmosphere
5	Vocabulary	0-5	The range and precision of language choices
6	Cohesion	0-4	The control of multiple threads and relationships over the whole text, achieved through the use of referring words, substitutions, word associations and text connectives
7	Paragraphs	0-2	The segmenting of text into paragraphs that assists the reader to negotiate the narrative
8	Sentence structure	0-6	The production of grammatically correct, structurally sound and meaningful sentences
9	Punctuation	0-5	The use of correct and appropriate punctuation to aid reading of the text
10	Spelling	0-6	The accuracy of spelling and the difficulty of the words used

Narrative Criteria

- *Note the split between:*
- Narrative elements (audience, text structure, ideas, character and setting)
- **19** marks out of 47
- Language elements (vocab, cohesion, paragraphing, sentence structure, punctuation, spelling)
- **28** marks out of 47



Narrative Criteria – Audience (0-6 marks)

The awareness of the reader

Consider:

- How well have students engaged with the task?
- How well have they appealed to their audience?
 - In the selection of subject matter
 - Through the use of language features
- How well do they use structural features to guide readers?



Narrative Criteria - Audience

Higher scoring pieces may demonstrate:

- A move from telling to showing
 - A move from purely descriptive to figurative language*
 - A move from cliché to originality
 - A move from the self or familiar audiences to a distant audience
 - A growing awareness of likely audience values and expectations (through genre expectations, subversion, irony, reader positioning and values)
- *Language features assessed formally in Vocabulary, but their purposeful use is recognised in Audience



Narrative Criteria – Text Structure (0-4 marks)

The organisation of narrative features including orientation, complication and resolution

Consider:

- Does the orientation establish setting, characters and situation?
- Is there a complication that initiates the plot?
- Is conflict present?
- Does tension build to a climax?
- Is there a resolution?



Narrative Criteria – Text Structure

Higher scoring pieces may demonstrate:

- A complete narrative with orientation, complication, climax and resolution
- A move from simple linear plots to:
 - alternative structures (cumulative, parallel, circular etc)
 - linear plots that manipulate time (flashbacks, foreshadowing etc)
 - plots that manipulate readers (red herrings, cliffhangers etc)
- A move beyond simple person v person conflicts (person v environment, person v society, person v fate, person v self)
- A genuine development of tension
- A move from obvious to engaging resolutions

Narrative Criteria – Ideas (0-5 marks)

The creation, selection and crafting of ideas within a narrative

Consider:

- Is there a clear idea, theme or purpose in the story?
- Do the various narrative elements contribute to the idea, theme or purpose?
- Are there multiple ideas that contribute to a theme?
- Is the theme clichéd or original?



Narrative Criteria – Ideas

Higher scoring pieces may demonstrate:

- A move from retell of events to the focus on theme development
- Ideas that show development or elaboration
- Synthesis of ideas into a clear theme
- A theme that is clearly evident without being obviously stated
- A move from imitation to originality
- A greater complexity of ideas (satire, extended metaphor, mature viewpoints, psychological subjects)



Narrative Criteria – Character and Setting

(0-4 marks)

The portrayal and development of character, as well as a sense of time and place

Consider:

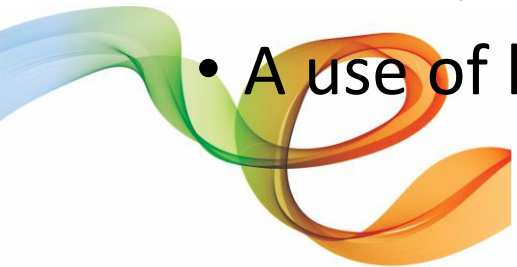
- Are characters clearly established?
- Do characters develop or grow throughout the narrative?
- Are thoughts and feelings ascribed to characters as well as actions?
- Is the setting clearly established and relevant to the narrative?
- Is there a sense of atmosphere?
 - NB: this is an 'and/or' criteria – students may be rewarded for one aspect but not the other



Narrative Criteria – Character and Setting

Higher scoring pieces may demonstrate:

- A move from stock, generic or stereotypical characters to more complex and distinct characters
- A move away from self and friends as characters
- Characterisation developed through showing, not telling (character actions, dialogue, others' reactions etc)
- Attribution of thoughts and feelings to characters
- Sensory details used to establish place
- A use of language devices to create atmosphere



Narrative Criteria – Vocabulary (0-5 marks)

The range and precision of language choices.

Consider:

- Is language selected for precision of meaning?
- Is language selected for its potential reader effects?
- Are a variety of language devices used?
- Is figurative language employed to develop connotative meaning?
- Does the language use increase the density of ideas?



Narrative Criteria – Vocabulary

Higher scoring pieces may demonstrate:

- Sustained use of precise vocabulary
- Use of language to enhance meaning or mood
- Natural and articular style
- Use of effective figurative language devices
- Nuanced language in dialogue (colloquial, idiosyncratic etc)
- A more complex vocabulary (technical terms, evaluative or attitudinal language, variation in language)



Narrative Criteria – Cohesion (0-4 marks)

The control of multiple threads and relationships across the whole text, achieved by the use of referring words (pronouns), substitutions, word associations and text connectives.

- Cohesion can be grammatical or lexical



Narrative Criteria – Cohesion

Grammatical cohesion

Consider:

- Are pronouns used correctly?
- Are connectives or transition markers employed purposefully? (time, cause, addition, contrast etc)
- Are conjunctions used to connect clauses in sentences correctly?



Narrative Criteria – Cohesion

Lexical cohesion

Consider:

- Are referrals to ideas logically linked?
- Are synonyms used to avoid repetition?
- Are further descriptive details added throughout the text in clearly linked fashion



Narrative Criteria – Cohesion

Higher scoring pieces may demonstrate:

- A move from simple connectives (often temporal) to a variety of connectives and conjunctions
- Greater degree of word associations to avoid repetition (synonyms, antonyms, word sets)
- Greater continuity of ideas
- Accurate use of referring words such as pronouns, resorting to original terms in complex sentences
- Clear links between various sections of the text



Narrative Criteria – Paragraphs (0-2 marks)

The segmenting of text into paragraphs that assists a reader to negotiate the narrative.

Consider:

- Are paragraphs clearly identifiable?
- Are paragraphs used to delineate broad changes in time, scene or idea?



Narrative Criteria – Paragraphs

Higher scoring pieces may demonstrate:

- A clear paragraph for each new change in place, time, speaker, event or idea.
- A move from paragraphs to separate basic sections of narrative into clearly identifiable unique ideas
- A move towards deliberate structuring of paragraphs for pace
- Experimentation with paragraph forms, such as a single line for dramatic effect.



Narrative Criteria – Sentence structure

(0-6 marks)

The production of grammatically correct, structurally sound and meaningful sentences.

Consider:

- Are sentences meaningful?
- Is there a variety of sentence types? (questions, statements, exclamations, imperatives)
- Is there a variety of sentence forms? (simple, complex, compound)



Narrative Criteria – Sentence structure

Consider:

- Are sentences well structured?
 - Internal clause structure
 - Subject verb agreement
 - Tense agreement
 - Correct sequence
 - Appropriate modality
 - Accurate structure even if internal punctuation (eg commas) missing



Narrative Criteria – Sentence structure

Higher scoring pieces may demonstrate:

- A move from mostly simple sentences to more complex and compound sentences
- The positioning of clauses for effect within sentences (emphasis, clarity, variety, positioning)
- Greater variety in length and rhythm of sentences
- Increased elaboration within sentences (adverbial clauses, phrases etc)
- Sophisticated intent within sentences even if they lack complex punctuation.



Narrative Criteria – Punctuation (0-5 marks)

The use of correct and appropriate punctuation to aid reading of the text.

Consider:

- Is sentence punctuation accurate? (capitals, full stops, exclamation and question marks)
- Are proper nouns capitalised?
- Are quotation marks used for dialogue?
- Are apostrophes, commas accurate? More complex punctuation?



Narrative Criteria – Punctuation

Higher scoring pieces may demonstrate:

- Correct sentence punctuation used consistently
- Accurate noun capitalisation
- Mostly correct use of commas for lists and clause separation
- Mostly correct use of apostrophes for contraction and possession
- Mostly correct use of quotation marks
- Some use of complex punctuation (brackets, ellipses, colons and semicolons)



Narrative Criteria – Spelling (0-6 marks)

The accuracy of spelling and the difficulty of (spelling) the words used.

Consider:

- The ratio of simple, common, difficult and challenging words



Narrative Criteria – Spelling

Simple – single syllable words where sounds map directly to the letters (bad, fit, drop, clap, shop, thin, will, less, good, feet)

Common – single or double syllable words with more complex sounds, simple homophones, simple suffixes (square, stretch, could, heavy, jumped, running)

Difficult – words with uneven stress patterns, less frequent vowel patterns, more complex suffixes, difficult homophones (chocolate, drought, beautiful, confidence)

Challenging – words with unusual consonant sounds, multiple affixes, foreign words, words with unstressed syllables (environment, ricochet, guarantee, noticeable)



Narrative Criteria – Spelling

Higher scoring pieces may demonstrate:

- Correct spelling of all words
- At least ten difficult words and some challenging words
- Or at least fifteen difficult words



The Marking Guide

The marking guide includes annotated sample scripts to guide you in coming to an understanding of the various bands.

Use these as models to familiarise yourself with the features of high scoring papers.

Use these as models to guide your students BUT avoid them adopting a checklist approach.



Consensus

Turn now to the samples

Score the sample individually, using the marking key

Meet with your small group and come to consensus

Whole group consensus

