What's Your Story? Write a story using the prompt below. Be sure to use descriptive details and a clear sequence of events.



On your birthday, a stranger came to your door and handed you a gift wrapped in plain brown paper. Write a story about what happened next.

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What's Your Story?

Standards-Based Rubric

Use this rubric to assess your students' writing. Proficiency is aligned with the 5th grade standard for narrative writing.

| | (1) Beginning | (2) Developing | (3) Proficient |
|--------------|--|--|--|
| Introduction | Narrator and/or characters are not clearly introduced; events lack a clear sequence. | Narrator and/or character(s) are introduced clearly but there is a lack of organizational structure; or character is somewhat unclear, but events unfold in a logical way. | A situation is established and a narrator and/or character(s) are introduced; the sequence of events is organized and unfolds naturally. |
| Technique | Narrative techniques, such as dialogue, description, and pacing, are missing. | Some narrative techniques are used, but may be inconsistent or do not support the flow of the story. | Narrative techniques, such as dialogue, description, and pacing, are used to develop experiences and events or show the responses of characters to situations. |
| Transitions | Transitional words are missing; there is no clear sequence of events. | Some transitional words are used, but may be inconsistent or do not support the sequence of events. | A variety of transitional words, phrases, and clauses are used to manage the sequence of events. |
| Details | Sensory details and descriptive language are missing. | Some details or descriptive language are used, but events in the story remain unclear or flat. | Concrete words and phrases and sensory details are used to convey experiences and events precisely. |
| Conclusion | A conclusion is missing or unclear. | A conclusion is provided, but does not clearly follow the sequence of events. | A conclusion that follows the narrated experiences or events is provided. |