

Scoring Guide for Standard 2.1 AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL WRITING -- Purpose: To show the reader an important event or experience from the writer's life.

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Subject	<p><i>Skillfully</i> offers an <i>authoritative, substantial, rich</i> narrative of one important event, experience, or situation. Describes the setting in just enough detail to make sense to the reader.</p> <p>Shows the writer's ideas, observations, or memories through <i>thoughtful, specific sensory details</i> (dialogue; specific actions, gestures, movements, expressions; inner thoughts; rich sensory description; suspense, surprise, flashback.)</p>	<p>Offers a <i>clear, coherent, competent</i> narrative of one event, experience or situation. Describes the setting.</p> <p>Overall, this narrative tells more than shows and offers general rather than specific details. Important details or events may be missing, and some of those given may not be well-chosen.</p>	<p>Offers a <i>simple, limited, basic</i> narrative of one event, experience or situation.</p> <p>Tells more than shows and offers few sensory details. May confuse the reader because important details or transitions are missing, OR too many of the details given may not relate to the story. May seem like a poorly connected list of events.</p>	<p>Does not narrate an event, experience or situation from beginning to end.</p> <p>This piece may be very short, incomplete, or confusing. The writer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • may offer more than one event • may jump from idea to idea • may give a list of unrelated ideas, observations, or memories
Significance	<p><i>Insightfully</i> states or shows the importance of this experience.</p>	<p>States or shows the importance of this experience.</p>	<p>The importance of this experience may be hard to understand.</p>	<p>The importance is hard to understand.</p>
Organization	<p>Covers <i>all</i> parts of the writing task. Focuses on the story throughout.</p> <p>Understands the purpose. Speaks to the topic. The tone shows awareness of the audience.</p> <p>Successfully includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a graceful beginning • a well-paced middle • a satisfying ending 	<p>Covers <i>all</i> parts of the writing task. Mostly focuses on the story.</p> <p><i>Mostly</i> understands the purpose. Speaks to the topic. Shows awareness of the audience.</p> <p>Includes a beginning, middle, and end, but <i>sections may be out of balance</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • may give too much detail to some parts and not enough to others • (or) may need more detail overall • (or) may focus on the setting or a person and skimp on the story • may begin abruptly • middle may drag or jump around • may end in a hurry 	<p>Covers <i>part</i> of the writing task. The focus may wander from the story.</p> <p>May understand the purpose but <i>does not successfully achieve it</i>. Speaks to the topic given. May not show awareness of the audience.</p> <p>May include a beginning, middle, and end, but the whole is not well-organized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • may begin abruptly • may only list events or details • may ramble on and on, lose focus and include unimportant or unrelated details • may lack an ending or end in a hurry 	<p>Covers <i>only one part</i> of the writing task.</p> <p>Shows <i>no</i> understanding of the purpose. May not speak to the topic given. Shows no awareness of the audience.</p> <p>Shows <i>no</i> understanding of how to create a narrative with a clear beginning, middle and end. Ideas are not presented in an organized way.</p>
Style	<p>Immediately "hooks" the reader with vivid, descriptive language. Creates a pleasing whole with varied sentences and purposeful transitions.</p>	<p>Uses a variety of sentence types but mostly <i>commonplace</i> language. Few surprises or delights for the reader.</p>	<p>Uses <i>little</i> sentence variety and <i>elementary</i> language.</p>	<p>Uses <i>no</i> sentence variety and <i>little</i> descriptive language.</p>
Correctness	<p>Contains few or no errors. Errors present do not interfere with the reader's understanding of the writer's meaning.</p>	<p>Contains <i>some</i> errors which do not confuse the reader.</p>	<p>Contains <i>several</i> errors which may confuse the reader.</p>	<p>Contains <i>serious</i> errors which confuse the reader.</p>