

Descriptive Writing Rubric

	Description (Does it show, not tell?)	Style / Voice (How well is it delivered?)
5	Breakthrough	
4 Excellent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Descriptive details are fresh, vivid, and powerful. - Writer adeptly uses figurative language (simile, metaphor, etc.) . 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Writing demonstrates an engaging, memorable voice. - Sentences are elegant and varied. - Word choice is precise and compelling.
3 Capable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reader can see and/or feel the scene the writer describes. - Descriptive details are concrete, specific, and sensory. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Writing demonstrates a confident voice. - Words are properly chosen. - Sentences are adequately constructed and logically ordered.
2 Emerging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most descriptive details are concrete and sensory, but writer could be more specific. - Writer relies too much on "telling," opinion words, or clichéd images. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stylistic/grammatical problems sometimes distract the reader from the message. - Language is sometimes vague or dispassionate.
1 Not There	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Little or no specific detail or sensory imagery. - Writer's message is unclear or ambiguous. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sentence structure or word choice obscures the writer's message.

Compliments

(What should the writer keep):

Suggestions

(What could the writer improve with revision):

Overall score: _____