**EDMOND PUBLIC SCHOOLS DESCRIPTIVE WRITING RUBRIC - GRADE 3**

**Student Teacher Score\_**

**4-EXCELLENT 3-ACCEPTABLE 2-BELOW AVERAGE 1-UNACCEPTABLE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Score** | **Traits** |
| \_\_\_4  \_\_\_3  \_\_\_2  \_\_\_1 | **CLEAR, WELL ORGANIZED, WELL DEVELOPED IDEAS**  0 **Main idea (thesis)** is **clearly written** in the **introductory paragraph** so that the reader  understands what the writer is planning to describe.  0 **Topic sentences** in the **middle (body) paragraphs clearly relate** to **main idea.**  0 **Supporting details clearly relate** to the **topic sentences.**  0 **Transition words/phrases** connect paragraphs smoothly. (First, Finally, In addition, On the other hand, After . . .)  0 **Introduction, body, and conclusion** provide **logical sequencing of ideas,** leading to an understandable description. |
| \_\_\_4  \_\_\_3  \_\_\_2  \_\_\_1 | **SENTENCE VARIATION IN PARAGRAPHS**  0 **Introductory participial phrase** (Burn**ing** like the sun, the diamond . . .) (Carv**ed** from a huge stone, the statue . . .)  0 **Compound sentence** (Lauren kept her secret**, and** no one else ever knew.)  0 **Appositive phrase** (Lexi**, my next door neighbor,** is a Girl Scout.)  0 **Introductory prepositional phrase** (**With her pen in her hand,** Daniela began to write.)  0 **Variety of sentence length** |
| \_\_\_4  \_\_\_3  \_\_\_2  \_\_\_1 | **WORD CHOICE**  0 Vivid, lively **verbs** are used. (Weak: Lu is a soccer player. Strong: Running like the wind, Lu blasts the ball down the field.)  0 Imaginative, unusual **adjectives** are used. (~~scary~~, menacing, bloodcurdling, chilling)  0 **Vague, overused, repetitive language** is avoided (a lot, very, really, then, big, pretty, and, like . . .). |
| \_\_\_4  \_\_\_3  \_\_\_2  \_\_\_1 | **FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE**  0 **Metaphor** (The moon was a drifting lantern on the silent sea.)  0 **Simile** (Meg's long hair looks like a beautiful waterfall.)  0 **Personification** (The angry wind roared.) |
| \_\_\_4  \_\_\_3  \_\_\_2  \_\_\_1 | **EDITING FOR GRAMMAR, USAGE, MECHANICS**  0 No **run-on sentences** (My grandmother is elegant, she always wears a hat.)  0 No **sentence fragments** (Because my grandmother always wears a hat.)  0 **Subject/verb agreement** (Correct: One of the toys is missing.)  0 Correct, consistent **verb tense usage** (Don't accidentally mix present and past tenses.)  0 **Punctuation** is correct.  0 **Capitalization** is correct.  0 **Spelling** is correct.  0 **Paragraphs** are **indented** correctly. |

©Patty Foster 2004