

Story Writing Rubric: The Houdini Box Ending

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Writing Process	Devotes a lot of time and effort to the writing process (prewriting, drafting, reviewing, and editing) and works hard to make the story wonderful	Devotes sufficient time and effort to the writing process (prewriting, drafting, reviewing, and editing) and gets the job done	Devotes some time and effort to the writing process but is not very thorough and does just enough to get by	Devotes little time and effort to the writing process and doesn't seem to care
Creativity	The story contains many creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has really used his/her imagination.	The story contains a few creative details and/or descriptions that contribute to the reader's enjoyment. The author has used his/her imagination.	The story contains a few creative details and/or descriptions, but they distract from the story. The author has tried to use his/her imagination.	There is little evidence of creativity in the story. The author does not seem to have used much imagination.
Neatness	The final draft of the story is readable, clean, neat, and attractive. It is typed. It looks like the author took great pride in it.	The final draft of the story is readable, neat, and attractive. It is typed. It looks like the author took some pride in it.	The final draft of the story is readable, and some of the pages are attractive. It looks like parts of it might have been done in a hurry. It isn't typed.	The final draft is not neat or attractive. It looks like the student just wanted to get it done and didn't care what it looked like. It isn't typed.
Illustrations	Original illustrations are detailed, attractive, creative, and relate to the text on the page.	Original illustrations are somewhat detailed, attractive, and relate to the text on the page.	Original illustrations relate to the text on the page.	Illustrations are not present or they do not relate to the text on the page.
Spelling and Punctuation	Contains no spelling or punctuation errors in the final draft. Character and place names that the author invented are spelled consistently throughout.	There is one spelling or punctuation error in the final draft. Invention of character and place names is inconsistent.	There are 2 or 3 spelling and punctuation errors in the final draft. Invention of character and place names is inconsistent.	The final draft has more than 3 spelling and punctuation errors. Invention of character and place names is lacking.
Focus on Assigned Topic	The entire historical fiction story ending is related to the assigned topic and allows the reader to understand much more about the topic.	Most of the historical fiction story ending is related to the assigned topic. The story wanders off at one point, but the reader can still learn something about the topic.	Some of the historical fiction story ending is related to the assigned topic, but the reader does not learn much about the topic.	No attempt has been made to relate the historical fiction story ending to the assigned topic. The reader does not learn anything about the topic.