Letter Story Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Ideas	The letters have enough detail to tell the story well. The characters are accurately reflected in the letters. The letters show relationships.	The letters have some detail but still tell the story. The characters are represented accurately but with less clarity to show relationships.	The story has some gaps but is recognizable. The characters are unclear—either too much or too little is shared to show relationships.	The letters leave out too much of the story. The characters are inadequately represented or misrepresented. No relationships.
Organization	The letters flow smoothly from one to the next. The ideas in each letter make sense in relation to each other. The letters are each formatted correctly for the style.	Most of the letters flow smoothly from one to the next. Any gaps or problems with order between or within letters are minor. Letters are mostly formatted correctly.	Some of the story seems lost in the gaps between letters, or the sequence of ideas in the letters is somewhat confusing. Letters have some formatting problems.	Gaps between letters make the story hard to follow. The letters are incorrectly formatted for the kind of letter.
Voice	The voice of the letters fits the character; the relationship with the addressee is clear and accurate.	The voice of the letters usually fits the character; the relationship with the addressee is mostly clear.	The voice fits some of the time; the relationship between the characters isn't clearly felt.	The voice is non-existent or inappropriate for the relationship of the characters.
Word Choice	Word choice is especially effective, precise, and fitting for the type of letter and the characters.	Most of the word choices are effective. In a few places they are vague or not a good fit for the type of letter.	Most of the words are common, vague, or not a good fit for the characters or type of letter.	Some of the word choices are distracting or unclear so that they detract from the character and type of letter.
Sentence Fluency	Sentences are smooth, rhythmic, and especially suited to the situation and character.	The sentences are effective without always being suited to the situation or character.	Sentences sometimes are repetitive, choppy, or unsuited to the situation or character.	Sentences are so choppy or lengthy that they are hard to read and don't reflect the tone or character at all.
Conventions	The conventions of the paper are correct and add meaning to the story.	The conventions are mostly correct.	Conventions sometimes interfere with the reading of the story.	The conventions often interfere with the reading of the story or make it confusing.
Genre	The choice of letter style was very appropriate for the characters and situation.	The choice of letter style works for the characters but not for the situation—or vice versa.	The revised story shows inconsistent understanding of genre concepts in letter style or application to story.	The letter-story shows ineffective choice of letter style and inability to use genres flexibly.