

NAME: _____ CLASS: _____ DATE: _____

RUBRIC FOR SHORT STORY



AFTER WRITING THE ROUGH DRAFT OF YOUR NARRATIVE, USE THE FOLLOWING RUBRIC TO HELP YOU IN YOUR REVISING/EDITING STAGES.

① → Title

- a. What is your title: _____
- b. Explain how it is **EFFECTIVE**:

② → Beginning

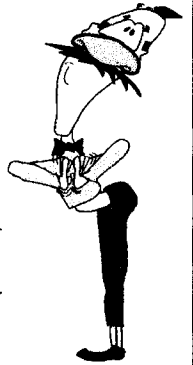
- a. Remember that all stories need **EFFECTIVE BEGINNINGS**. Write the first sentence (or the first few sentences) of your story below:

- b. Explain why it will get the **READER'S ATTENTION**:
(Remember that often an editor will stop reading after an introduction that has failed to interest him or her.)

③ → **Setting**

- a. Quote an example of how you have **ESTABLISHED SETTING EARLY** in the story:

- b. How is the setting **ESSENTIAL** in your story?



④ → **Characterization**

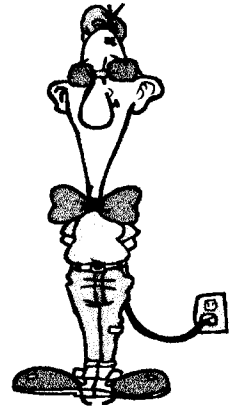
- a. Readers need to identify with or be interested in the characters. Quote a passage from your narrative that proves that a **READER SHOULD CARE ABOUT THE PLIGHT OF ONE OF YOUR CHARACTERS.**

- b. Explain the **APPEAL**:

- ⑤ → **Theme**--Readers want some sort of **MESSAGE** from your story, something they can say they've learned about life or human behavior.

QUOTE OR EXPLAIN your theme (your message): _____

⑥ → **Plot/Conflict**--Draw a **PLOT GRAPH** of your story, showing at least three rising actions, one climax, and one falling action. **REMEMBER THAT READERS WANT TO SEE CONFLICT, IF ONLY INTERNAL.**



⑦ → **Style**--To prove that you've tried to develop a style of your own, quote examples of the following:

a. **SPECIFIC DETAILS** for effect: _____

b. **FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE:** _____

c. **ANOTHER STYLISTIC DEVICE:** _____

⑧ → **Tone/Mood**--What is the tone/mood of your story?

⑨ → **Mechanical Errors**--Prove that you've proofread for these by citing examples of words or passages that have been revised:

a. **SPELLING**--List 3 words you have looked up:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

b. **RUN-ONS**--List 2 examples of run-ons or sentences that you thought could be run-ons.

1. _____

2. _____

c. **FRAGMENTS**--List 2 examples of fragments or sentences that you thought could be fragments:

1. _____

2. _____

d. **TENSE CONSISTENCY**--Explain what tense you have used and list 3 examples:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

⑩ → **Effective Ending**

a. **WRITE** the ending of your narrative:

b. **EXPLAIN** how it is effective:

