



Tell-A-Tale Scoring Rubric



	Originality (1-4 points)	Creative Expression (1-4 points)	Composition (1-4 points) <i>(*only include criteria for 2nd grade and up)</i>
Distinguished (4 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is based on an original idea and offers an original interpretation of the theme. • Writing includes certain elements of originality. For example, a unique voice or an unexpected outcome. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is expressive, including figurative language and detailed descriptions that engage the reader. • If illustrated, the illustrations are appropriate to the content and mood of the writing. • If illustrated, the illustrations are very engaging to the viewer and enhance the writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The writing is well organized and unified from start to finish with effective transitions. • The writing style and content generally meet the needs of the audience. • The tone is appropriate and enhances the writing. • Sentences are carefully crafted to create fluidity, interest and variety. * • The writing demonstrates understanding of grammatical conventions.
Proficient (3 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is based on an original idea OR offers an original interpretation of the theme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is expressive, including some figurative language and/or detailed description. • If illustrated, the illustrations are generally appropriate to the content and mood of the writing. • If illustrated, the illustrations enhance the writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The piece is generally organized and unified. • The writing demonstrates some awareness of the audience’s needs. • Effective transitions are used, but there are lapses. * • Sentences are effective with some variety. * • There are one or two distracting grammatical or word choice errors.*
Apprentice (2 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is some evidence of original thought present, but the writing is based on a common interpretation of the theme and does not include elements of originality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing includes some descriptive words and includes efforts at figurative language, but needs improvement in order to engage the reader. • If illustrated, the illustrations loosely fit the writing. • If illustrated, the illustrations have been created with some care, but also show some evidence of being hurried or disinterested. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The piece, while coherent, does not demonstrate an understanding of the audience’s need for logic and order. • Some transitions are awkward. * • Sentences structure is generally simple, with little attempt to provide variety and fluidity. * • There are several distracting grammatical and word choice errors.*
Novice (1 point)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The writing feels like a retelling and has a common interpretation of the theme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is very simple and lacks the creative enhancements needed to engage the reader. • If illustrated, the illustrations appear to be an afterthought as they lack detail and craft. • If illustrated, the illustrations do not fit the writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The piece is not organized and is therefore hard for the reader to understand. • Sentences are simple or fragmented.* • Due to numerous grammatical and word choice errors, the writing is very difficult to understand.*