

2025 Northern Narratives Prose Standards

Points	Ideas	Technical Skill	Voice
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas are not developed • Little focus and intent unclear • Characters are not developed • Weak point of view 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas are not organized and there is no sense of movement through the piece • Grammar and phrasing need improvement • Sentence structure is repetitive • Many errors in spelling, punctuation, and conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little personality expressed; language is flat and uninteresting • No style that invites trust of the writer's skills • Does not evoke emotion in the reader • Pacing is awkward and hinders reading experience
2			
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas are somewhat developed • Piece is partially focused and intent is sometimes clear • Characters are somewhat developed • Point of view comes across intermittently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas are somewhat organized and convey the sense of movement through the piece • Some grasp of grammar and phrasing • Sentence structure is fairly varied • A few errors in spelling, punctuation, and conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some personality expressed through varied language • Style that demonstrates some skill and confidence of writer • Evokes some emotion in the reader • Pacing is smooth at times but awkward at others
4			
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas are developed • Piece is fairly focused and intent is mostly clear • Characters are developed through dialogue, narration, and action • Strong point of view 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas are organized and lead the reader through the piece • Good grasp of grammar and phrasing • Sentence structure is varied and sometimes complex • Good spelling, punctuation, and conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong personality expressed through varied language • Style that demonstrates competent skill and confidence of writer • Evokes emotion in the reader • Pacing is mostly smooth
6			
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas are well developed • Piece is focused and intent is clear • Characters are complex and well developed through dialogue, narration, and action • Unique point of view 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas are well organized to best lead the reader through the piece • Excellent grasp of grammar and phrasing • Sentence structure is varied and complex • Mastery of spelling, punctuation, and other conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vivid personality expressed through varied and memorable language • Unique style that demonstrates high skill and confidence of writer • Evokes deep emotion in the reader • Pacing is smooth and deliberate
8			