

Rubric for Creative Writing Assignment: Against the Odds

	Beginning 1(D)	Developing 2(C)	Accomplished 3(B)	Exemplary 4(A)
Ideas and content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Focus on topic is not clearly defined. * Limited, or disconnected details show virtually no understanding of the subject. * Approach is common. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Focus on topic is somewhat defined. * Underdeveloped details show little knowledge and are too general to create a picture. * fresh approach attempted, but lacks supporting details. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Focus on topic is clear. *Sufficient detail creates a picture showing some knowledge and insight *Fresh approach adds something to reader's understanding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Focus on the topic is clear and well defined. *Rich sense of detail creates a vivid, authentic picture of both environment and action, showing knowledge and insight. *Fresh approach holds reader's attention.
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Introduction /conclusion may be absent or lack focus. * Sequencing of details is not clear. * Transitions are not evident 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Introduction and conclusion attempt to establish focus. * Sequencing of details is limited. *Transitions are limited.. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Effective introduction and conclusion are clearly linked (may be explicit or implicit connection) and establish focus. *Sequencing of details is logical. *Transitions attempt to tie the ideas of the paper together.. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Memorable introduction and conclusion are clearly linked (may be explicit or implicit connection) and establish focus. * Sequencing of details is effective and logical. *Transitions effectively tie the ideas of the paper together.
Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Writer's personality is not evident. *Commitment to topic is lacking. *Connection to audience and purpose is lacking. *Writing evokes minimal emotion in the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Writer's personality pokes through; confidence and feeling fade in and out. *A commitment to the topic is apparent. *Connection to audience and purpose is appropriate. * The writing evokes some emotion in the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Writer's personality is undefined; writing is cautious. *Commitment to topic is limited. *Connection to audience and purpose is limited. *Writing evokes limited emotion in the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The writer's personality is expressed; confidence and feeling are apparent. * Individual, powerful commitment to the topic is obvious. * Connection to audience and purpose is excellent. *Writing evokes strong emotion
Word Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Limited vocabulary *Verb and noun choice is weak. *Adjectives and phrases lack definition. *Language choice and phrasing is inappropriate, repetitive or lacks meaning. * Dialogue, if used, is limited. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Ordinary word choice attempts to create a picture in the reader's mind. *Verbs, nouns, adjectives, and phrases are adequate. * Language choice and phrasing lack inspiration. * Dialogue, if used, sounds forced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Correct, adequate word choice creates a clear picture in the reader's mind. * Lively verbs, specific nouns, and appropriate adjectives and phrases add to the meaning. *Some colorful language and unusual phrasing encourage reflection. * Dialogue, if used, sounds appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Precise, vivid, natural language creates a clear and complete picture in the reader's mind. *Powerful verbs, precise nouns, appropriate adjectives and phrases enhance meaning. *Original phrasing and memorable language prompt reflective thoughts and insights. *Dialogue, if used, sounds natural.

Sentence Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Sentences contain unnecessary words that detract from the meaning. * Sentences offer little or no variety in beginnings, length, and structure. * Sentences lack rhythm or pattern when read aloud. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Sentences contain some unnecessary words; however, meaning is fairly clear. *Sentences offer some variety in beginnings, length and structure. * Sentences follow a predictable pattern and rhythm when read aloud. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Sentences contain words that are necessary for the meaning to be clear. *Sentences vary in beginnings, length, and structure. * Most sentences sound smooth and rhythmic when read aloud. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Sentences contain words that are relevant so the meaning is enhanced. *Sentences vary in beginnings, length and structure. *Sentences sound smooth and rhythmic when read aloud; they invite expressive reading.
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