

Creative Writing - RUBRIC

Please note: Judging creative work is based largely on the reader's emotional response and on the sense that there is a driving concern (or concerns) or question (or questions) that the author pursues with clarity, thoughtfulness and compassion. Form is also highly important and should reflect the driving concerns and questions of the piece. In prose, one should consider the criteria in relation to: point-of-view; plot; setting; characterization, dialogue, world building, etc. In poetry, one should consider the criteria in relation to: voice; imagery; timing; sound quality, and visual life on the page, etc.

Score	Clarity of Themes/ Concerns / Questions	Relationship between Form and Content	Quality of overall writing	Originality
1	Not clear / confused	Formal imperative is unclear	Writing is sloppy and/or grammatically incorrect and/or full of typos	Writing is full of cliches and themes are unoriginal
2	Some clarity but many deviations that confuse the reader or make the piece hard to follow at times	Formal imperative is clear at times but loses focus	Writing has a few awkward, grammatically incorrect moments, but also demonstrates some proficiency	Writing has some cliches, and themes are somewhat predictable, but the piece also offers a few original moments
3	Clear but occasionally loses focus	Formal imperative is generally clear with a few moments of confusion throughout	The writing has few errors, inconsistent syntax or typos.	Writing avoids cliches and isn't bogged down by predictable themes
4	Clear and consistent throughout	Formal imperative remains consistent	Writing is without errors, inconsistent syntax or typos and is polished and eloquent	Writing is highly original and offers the reader an experience that that do not undermine the overall consistency of the piece
5	Clear and fully realized	Piece never loses sight of its formal imperative except to challenge the reader as a reflection of its textual concerns	Writing is highly polished and eloquent, demonstrating an exceptional command of the language	Writing is exceptionally original and offers unexpected, moving moments that work to fully realize the purpose of the piece