

# Narrative Writing

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

A NARRATIVE tells a story. Strong narrative writing has (1) a beginning that introduces characters and setting, (2) a middle with events in order, (3) descriptive details and dialogue, and (4) an ending that wraps the story up.

## PRACTICE

*Pick or write the best answer for each item.*

- Which sentence is the BEST opening for a narrative?
  - The bus is yellow.
  - It was the first day of third grade, and I forgot my lunchbox at home.
  - Today I will explain how buses work.
  - Buses are the best way to get to school.
- Which word signals the ORDER of events in a story?
  - because
  - next
  - however
  - for example
- Which sentence uses DESCRIPTIVE detail well?
  - The cat sat there.
  - The fluffy orange cat sat on the warm windowsill, watching the rain.
  - It was a cat.
  - The cat is animal.
- Which sentence uses DIALOGUE?
  - Mom said the dog was hungry.
  - “The dog is hungry,” Mom said.
  - Mom was speaking about the dog.
  - The dog wanted food.



- 5. Which sentence is a GOOD closing for a narrative?
  - A. The end of the day, I felt happy and very lucky.
  - B. There are many parts to a story.
  - C. I will write more stories next year.
  - D. And then everything was a thing.
- 6. Write the BEGINNING of a story. Tell WHO is in the story and WHERE it happens (1–2 sentences).

---

---

- 7. Write a MIDDLE sentence with a PROBLEM or surprise.

---

---

- 8. Why are SENSORY details (sight, sound, smell) helpful in a narrative?
  - A. They make the writing longer for no reason.
  - B. They help readers PICTURE the scene and feel like they are there.
  - C. They take the place of dialogue.
  - D. They show the writer can spell big words.

- 9. Which set of words shows a GOOD ORDER for narrative events?
  - A. next, suddenly, finally, first
  - B. first, then, suddenly, finally
  - C. finally, before, however, also
  - D. for example, also, first, next

- 10. Now finish your story from items 6 and 7. Write an ENDING that resolves the problem in 1–2 sentences.

---

---



# Answer Keys

<p>1 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>2 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>3 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>4 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>5 <input checked="" type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p>	<p>6 <input type="text" value="See below"/></p> <p>7 <input type="text" value="See below"/></p> <p>8 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>9 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>10 <input type="text" value="See below"/></p>
---	--

Explanations	
<b>1. B</b>	B introduces a character (the narrator), a setting (first day), and a problem (lunchbox). A is just a fact; C is informative; D is opinion.
<b>2. B</b>	“Next” signals sequence. The others signal cause/effect, contrast, or examples.
<b>3. B</b>	B includes color, texture, place, and action. The others are bare.
<b>4. B</b>	B uses quotation marks and the exact words spoken. A reports what was said without dialogue.
<b>5. A</b>	A wraps the story with a feeling. B is informative; C is a meta-comment; D is unclear.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Answer:</b> Example: Last Saturday, my little brother Eli and I went to the city zoo for the first time. Any clear beginning that names character(s) and setting.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Answer:</b> Example: At the monkey area, Eli slipped his hand out of mine and ran toward the gate. Any sentence that introduces conflict or a turn.
<b>8. B</b>	Sensory details build the world. The other options miss the point.
<b>9. B</b>	B moves from start to surprise to end. The others mix orders or use non-time words.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Answer:</b> Example: I caught up to Eli just before he reached the gate. We held hands the rest of the day, and Eli promised to stay close. Any ending that resolves the problem from item 7.



## Want Even More Practice? Check Out Our Other South Dakota Smarter Balanced ELA Test Books!



### South Dakota Smarter Balanced Grade 3 ELA Preparation Bundle

26 full-length practice tests across four books (5 + 6 + 7 + 8)

*No repeated questions — maximum practice value!*

▼ DOWNLOAD INSTANTLY ▼



SCAN ME

*Point your phone camera at the code · instant access to all four books*

**26 Tests!**  
**4 Books**  
**One Bundle**

**Important:** All our test books contain **unique, completely different tests** from each other! Each book offers fresh practice questions — no repeats!

<b>5 Practice Tests</b>	<b>6 Practice Tests</b>	<b>7 Practice Tests</b>	<b>8 Practice Tests</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 5 complete practice tests with detailed explanations</li> <li>✓ Perfect foundation for Smarter Balanced ELA prep</li> <li>✓ Builds confidence and test-taking skills</li> <li>✓ High-quality questions aligned with standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Start your practice journey!</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 6 complete practice tests with detailed explanations</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from the 5 tests book</li> <li>✓ Perfect for more practice after mastering 5 tests</li> <li>✓ Same high-quality questions aligned with standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Take your practice to the next level!</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 7 complete practice tests for deeper preparation</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from 5 and 6 tests books</li> <li>✓ Builds stamina with full-length practice</li> <li>✓ Aligned to Grade 3 Smarter Balanced ELA standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Maximum preparation power!</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 8 complete practice tests — our largest book</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from 5, 6 and 7 books</li> <li>✓ Great for final review before test day</li> <li>✓ Builds true test stamina and confidence</li> </ul> <p><b>Be fully prepared!</b></p>

Get the bundle at [EffortlessMath.com](https://www.EffortlessMath.com) — scan the QR code above to open the product page.