

Sustainability Literacy Narrative Feedback Tool

The best professional and personal narratives strategically align your values and experiences with the opportunity or topic at hand, and project meaningfully toward future goals. Before you begin, select a limited and specific set of values that will supply the grounding theme for the essay. Then, begin to gather compelling and diverse evidence for those foundational values. In the grading scale below, “5” indicates work that aptly fulfills the noted criteria. “4” indicates work that often fulfills the noted criteria. “3” indicates work that only partially fulfills the noted criteria. “2” indicates work that demonstrates significant flaws in relation to the noted criteria. “1” indicates work that cannot be evaluated based on criteria

Criteria	Excellent (no deduction)	A	B	C	D	F
Opening Moves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening situates the reader in the midst of an engaging thought or action that aptly frames the narrative 					
Middle Ground	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Middle paragraphs focus on representative experiences (academic, personal, professional) or key facets of a core experience 					
Final Gestures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conclusion strategically extends, echoes, or reflects upon the thoughts or actions introduced in the opening in light of the unfolding narrative Conclusion projects grounding values meaningfully and specifically towards future goals 					
Narrative Arc & Transitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paragraphs form a cohesive story of growth and development Transitions between paragraphs effectively bridge core ideas rather than rely on mere sequence or chronology 					
Analytical & Conceptual Depth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Author conceives of both literacy and sponsorship with nuance and analytical depth. Essay embodies an informed understanding of sustainability, including explicit or implicit engagement with the “3 Es” and “3 Cs” 					
The Stuff of Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Author offers evidence to support essay’s grounding values Essay gives the character <i>something to do</i>, aptly balancing action and reflection and avoiding abstraction Author’s character is likable—perhaps quirky, but not flawed 					
Style and Function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Author varies sentence pacing (length) and structure (syntax) Essay is polished with few errors Author achieves concision by using active voice and vivid verbs (few “to be” verbs), and avoiding strings of prepositional phrases 					
The Detailed Self	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Author uses vivid details to engage the reader on multiple sensory and intellectual levels, encouraging the reader to smell, hear, think, feel, taste, see, laugh, and so on 					