

Rubrics and Exemplars: Grade 7

Responses to Red Scarf Girl & Narrative

Focus

Definition: To select one specific moment or idea and to develop just this moment or idea in your writing.

4 EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

Student writes a minimum of 130 words AND almost all sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

3 PROFICIENT

Student writes a minimum of 95 words AND most sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

2 DEVELOPING PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 50 words AND some sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

1 NO PROGRESS TOWARD PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 25 words AND almost none of the sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

Use of Evidence

Definition: Selecting and describing quoted or paraphrased details from a text to develop and support an idea.

4 EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

Student writes a minimum of 130 words AND student describes what he or she notices in almost all of the pieces of textual evidence that he or she includes.

3 PROFICIENT

Student writes a minimum of 95 words AND student describes what he or she notices in most of the pieces of textual evidence that he or she includes.

2 DEVELOPING PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 50 words AND student describes what he or she notices in some of the pieces of textual evidence that he or she includes.

1 NO PROGRESS TOWARD PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 25 words AND student describes what he or she notices in almost none of the pieces of textual evidence that he or she includes.

Use of Focus score of 1

4 EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

Student writes a minimum of 130 words AND almost all sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

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Student writes a minimum of 95 words AND most sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

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Student writes a minimum of 50 words AND some sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

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Student writes a minimum of 25 words AND almost none of the sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

Responses to Red Scarf Girl & Narrative

Writing Prompt: Describe Ji-li's feelings about her house before and after the search.

Text: *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*, Ji-li Jiang

Number of minutes spent on the assignment: 15

Word count: 74

Before the search of her house by the Red guards, Ji-li felt very lucky. "Until the audition I felt like the luckiest girl in the world" (The Liberation Army Dancer, 70). After the search, she felt terrible.

Another time Ji-li felt terrible was when her father told her she could not audition for the Central Liberation Army Arts Academy. She was most upset when she found out her grandfather was a landlord.

- Lindsay, Grade 7

- Writes 74 words and is eligible for a score of 2 or 1 in Focus.
- Receives a score of 1 because almost none of the sentences refer to the same moment or idea.
- Introduces her idea regarding Ji-li's feeling about her home before and after the search, but does not expand on or develop this idea.
- Includes one direct quote that supports her idea.
- Adds sentences that do not refer to her idea about Ji-li's feelings about her home.

Use of Focus score of 2

4 EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

Student writes a minimum of 140 words AND almost all sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

3 PROFICIENT

Student writes a minimum of 105 words AND most sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

2 DEVELOPING PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 50 words AND some sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

1 NO PROGRESS TOWARD PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 25 words AND almost none of the sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

Responses to Red Scarf Girl & Narrative

Writing Prompt: Describe Ji-li's feelings about her house before and after the search.

Text: *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*, Ji-li Jiang

Number of minutes spent on the assignment: 15

Word count: 80

At the start of the Cultural Revolution, Ji-Li feels happy about her home, whereas after the search, she felt as if her beautiful home was destroyed. Before the search, Ji-li says, "I loved our top-floor room" (The Liberation Army Dancer, 66). Ji-li feels very proud that they live at the top of the building. After the search she complains, "The apartment was a mess. The middle of the floor was strewn with the contents of the overturned chests and drawers-" (A Search in Passing, 119).

- Patrick, Grade 7

- Writes 80 words and is eligible for a score of 2 or 1 in Focus.
- Receives a score of 2 because all the sentences he writes refer to his idea regarding Ji-li's feelings about her home before and after the search.
- Clearly states his idea.
- Includes two direct quotes that clearly support his idea.
- Writes additional sentences that support his idea.

Use of Focus score of 3

4 EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

Student writes a minimum of 130 words AND almost all sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

3 PROFICIENT

Student writes a minimum of 95 words AND most sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

2 DEVELOPING PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 50 words AND some sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

1 NO PROGRESS TOWARD PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 25 words AND almost none of the sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

Responses to Red Scarf Girl & Narrative

Writing Prompt: Describe Ji-li's feelings about her house before and after the search.

Text: *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*, Ji-li Jiang

Number of minutes spent on the assignment: 15

Word count: 143

Before the search Ji-li was proud of how special her house was, after the search she feels vulnerable and exposed. Ji-li is proud of her house because its clean and its bigger than a lot of peoples houses at school "Many did not have a bathroom at all or even a flush toilet and very few had a full-size bathrooms that they did not have to share with other families" (The Liberation Army Dancer, 66). After the search, she feels like her privacy has been violated. She feels embarrassed that they ransacked all her private belongings. She feels sad that her treasures have been destroyed. She feels like nothing is safe anymore.

I once had a friend who had her house broken into when she wasn't home and she felt violated too. She lives on Robin Road and 5 houses on her street got broken into.

-Amanda, Grade 7

- Writes 109 words and is eligible for a score of 4, 3, 2 or 1 in Focus.
- Receives a score of 3 because she clearly states her idea regarding Ji-li's feelings about her house before and after the search, and most sentences elaborate on her idea.
- Clearly states her idea.
- Includes one direct quote that supports her idea.
- Writes additional sentences that support her idea.
- Adds sentences that do not refer to her idea about Ji-li's feelings about her home.

Use of Focus score of 4

4 EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

Student writes a minimum of 130 words AND almost all sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

3 PROFICIENT

Student writes a minimum of 95 words AND most sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

2 DEVELOPING PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 50 words AND some sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

1 NO PROGRESS TOWARD PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 25 words AND almost none of the sentences refer to the same precise moment or idea.

Responses to Red Scarf Girl & Narrative

Writing Prompt: Describe Ji-li's feelings about her house before and after the search.

Text: *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*, Ji-li Jiang

Number of minutes spent on the assignment: 15

Word count: 180

At the start of the cultural revolution, Ji-li felt proud of her home. After the search, however, she felt scared and sad. She was appreciative of her house because she knew it was better than other people's: "I loved our top-floor room. A huge French window and a high ceiling made it bright all year round, warmer during the winter and cooler in the summer. [...] our room was ten times as big as many of my classmates' homes." She loved the fact that her house was the top floor, had so much sunlight, was the perfect temperature year round, and was spacious. But her feelings greatly contrast from this after the search. "The apartment was a mess. The middle of the floor was strewn with the contents of the overturned chests and drawers. [...] And the stamp album was gone forever." (A Search in Passing, 119) She is upset that her usually clean house is now ruined. She is sad that the Red Guards would destroy their possessions. She is very distraught that her stamp book, which she called her "treasure," was taken.

- Steven, Grade 7

- Writes 180 words and is eligible to receive a score of 4, 3, 2, or 1 in Focus.
- Receives a score of 4 because every sentence refers back to and helps to develop his idea about Ji-li's feelings about her home before and after the search.
- Clearly states his idea.
- Includes two direct quotes that support his idea.
- Writes additional sentences that support his idea.

Use of Evidence score of 1

4 EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

Student writes a minimum of 130 words AND student describes what he or she notices in almost all of the pieces of textual evidence that he or she includes.

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Student writes a minimum of 50 words AND student describes what he or she notices in some of the pieces of textual evidence that he or she includes.

1 NO PROGRESS TOWARD PROFICIENCY

Student writes a minimum of 25 words AND student describes what he or she notices in almost none of the pieces of textual evidence that he or she includes.

Responses to Red Scarf Girl & Narrative

Assignment: Describe Ji-li's feelings about her house before and after the search.

Text: *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*, Ji-li Jiang

Number of minutes spent on the assignment: 15

Word count: 76

Ji-li talks a lot about her house and her family. She says, "I love our top-floor room." (The Liberation Army Dancer, 66) "Many did not have a bathroom at all or even a flush toilet and very few had a full-size bathrooms that they did not have to share with other families" (The Liberation Army Dancer, 66) She also says, "My family was also special in another way." (The Liberation Army Dancer, 67). In paragraph 70 she says, "I felt like the luckiest girl in the world".

- Rebecca, Grade 7

- Writes 76 words and is eligible for a score of 2 or 1 in Use of Evidence.
- Receives a score of 1 because she does not describe what she notices in any of the evidence she includes.
- Strings together four quotes without describing what she notices in any of the quotes.

Use of Evidence score of 2

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Responses to Red Scarf Girl & Narrative

Assignment: Describe Ji-li's feelings about her house before and after the search.

Text: *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*, Ji-li Jiang

Number of minutes spent on the assignment: 15

Word count: 76

Before the search Ji-li said, "I loved our top-floor room" (*The Liberation Army Dancer*, 66). "I felt like the luckiest girl in the world" (*The Liberation Army Dancer*, 70). But after the search, Ji-li felt violated. "I felt as if I had been stripped naked in public" (*A Search in Passing*, 125). She uses the strong phrase, "stripped naked," which shows that she felt extremely exposed. She had no privacy, they went through everything in her house, no matter how special it was to her.

- Jeremy, Grade 7

- Writes 76 words and is eligible for a score of 2 or 1 in Use of Evidence.
- Receives a score of 2 because he describes what he notices in one of the quotes he includes.
- Includes a direct quote, then describes what he notices in this quote.
- Misses the opportunity to excel because he does not describe what he notices in the two other quotes he includes.

Use of Evidence score of 3

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Responses to Red Scarf Girl & Narrative

Assignment: Describe Ji-li's feelings about her house before and after the search.

Text: *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*, Ji-li Jiang

Number of minutes spent on the assignment: 15

Word count: 180

Before the search Ji-li said, "I loved our top-floor room. A huge French window and a high ceiling made it bright all year round... our room was ten times as big as many of my classmates homes, and a hundred times brighter." (The Liberation Army Dancer, 66) She felt that her house was a lot better than everyone else's house because she doesn't just say that her house was bigger or brighter, she says it was "ten times as big" and "one hundred times brighter." She felt she was rich and lucky to have a house like that because most people lived in small, crowded, and dark houses.

After the search she says, "the apartment was a mess (A Search in Passing, 119)." She adds, "the stamp album was gone forever (A Search in Passing, 121)," meaning that it was ruined. She had already said that her stamp collection was very special to her and now it is trash. She uses the word "forever" to show that this is permanent, she is very upset that her precious stamps will never be the same.

- Sarah, Grade 7

- Writes 180 words and is eligible for a score of 4, 3, 2, or 1 in Use of Evidence.
- Receives a score of 3 because she skillfully draws the reader's attention to particular words and phrases in two out of three pieces of evidence she includes.
- Includes a direct quote, then describes what she notices in this quote.
- Adds another direct quote, then describes what she notices in this quote.
- Misses the opportunity to excel in Use of Evidence because she does not describe what she notices in one of the quotes that she includes.

Use of Evidence score of 4

4 EXCEEDS EXPECTATIONS

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Student writes a minimum of 50 words AND student describes what he or she notices in some of the pieces of textual evidence that he or she includes.

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Responses to Red Scarf Girl & Narrative

Assignment: Describe Ji-li's feelings about her house before and after the search.

Text: *Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution*, Ji-li Jiang

Number of minutes spent on the assignment: 15

Word count: 194

At the start of the Cultural Revolution Ji-li felt proud of her home, but after the search, she felt ashamed. In the beginning, Ji-li raved about her house- "Best of all, we had a private bathroom." Ji-li was especially proud of the bathroom in their house, as is shown by her use of the phrase, "best of all". Many people did not have bathrooms so they had to share with other families. She knows that her family is privileged that they only share their bathroom with each other, and she appreciates this luxury. After the search, Ji-li says, "All my treasures were scattered on the floor," meaning the things that are the most special to her are broken and gone for good. She also says, "I loved my collection, even though I knew I should not." By writing, "even though" Ji-li shows that she feels ashamed. Collecting things was considered bourgeois and she should not even have had treasures in the first place. She feels embarrassed for collecting them and even more ashamed for being upset that they are gone. Ji-li's pride for her home before the search turns to shame after the search.

- Sean, Grade 7

- Writes 194 words and is eligible for a score of 4, 3, 2, or 1 in Use of Evidence.
- Receives a score of 4 because he describes what he notices in every piece of included evidence; he emphasizes particular phrases from the text and explains the significance of those words.
- Includes a direct quote, then describes what he notices in this quote.
- Adds another direct quote, then describes what he notices in this quote.
- Selects a third direct quote, then describes what he notices in this quote.