Promise Story Essay Contest Rubric

Point Range:	Exceptional 23-33	Proficient 12-22	Developing 1-11
Originality: Content and Title Points:	 The essay reflects on a promise with originality, creativity, and shows a deep reflection on the author's life experiences. The title represents the content of the piece in an original way. 	 The essay shows some originality, creativity, and reflection on the author's life experiences. The title somewhat represents the content of the piece. 	 The essay does not exhibit much originality and/or creativity. The essay may not contain a title or the title does not clearly connect to the content.
Focus: Interpretation of the Theme Points:	 The essay clearly focuses on a promise (kept or broken) that is important in the author's life. Promise is clearly stated and thoroughly explained- including its origin and consequences. 	 The essay somewhat focuses on a promise (kept or broken) that is important in the author's life. Promise is stated and described but might not be clear or thorough in its explanation. 	- The essay has a limited focus on the theme and does not clearly focus on a promise (kept or broken) Promise is not stated clearly and is lacking an in-depth explanation.
Craftmanship: Personal Narrative Techniques and Writing Skills Points:	 Barely any grammatical mistakes that do not take away from the content of the essay. The essay flows smoothly from one idea to the next in an organized manner. The structure and presentation of information is compelling and encourages the reader to continue. 	 Some errors in grammar, spelling, and/or punctuality take away from the content of the essay. The essay seems somewhat disjointed and does not flow well. The structure of the essay is sometimes confusing to the reader. 	 - Many errors in grammar, spelling, and/or punctuation that take away from the quality of the piece. - The essay is unorganized and difficult to read.