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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Both journal entries tell a story involving  ---multiple characters who interact with each other naturally  ---a narrator | Both journal entries tell a story involving  --- characters who interact with each other well  ---a narrator | Both journal entries tell a story involving  ---one or two characters who may interact with each other, but not in a natural way  ---a narrator | Both journal entries tell a story involving  ---just a narrator  ---OR diaries are not in first person |
| Both journal entries tell a well-written story with events that progress naturally. The journals unfold in a logical way and details are included to connect the events as a story. Transition words are used consistently and effectively. | Both journal entries are satisfactorily successful in telling a story with events that progress logically. The journal’s events are sequential but a few additional details are needed to connect it together as a story. Transition words are used effectively. | One or more of the journal entries are somewhat successful in telling a story with events that may or may not progress logically. The journal’s events require some additional details to connect it together as a story. Transition words are used. | Both journal entries are minimally successful in telling a story with events that progress illogically or ineffectively. The journal’s events are listed from one to the next without much or any narration in between. Transition words are not used or are ineffective. |
| The author successfully uses descriptive words and phrases and sensory details to describe experiences and events **precisely**. | The author is satisfactorily successful in using descriptive words and phrases and sensory details to describe experiences and events **precisely**. | The author is somewhat successful in using descriptive words and phrases and sensory details to describe experiences and events. | The author uses few or no descriptive words and phrases or sensory details to describe experiences and events. |
| The author uses a voice that is unique. They use some complex sentences and literary devices. | The author uses a voice that is unique. They use a few complex sentences and/or literary devices. | The author uses a voice that conveys the story, but is fairly plain. They may or may not use complex sentences or literary devices. | The author tells events in the story, but may not use a unique voice. They use simple sentence patterns. |
| Both journal entries successfully embed facts and accurate information about the American West and the people who traveled there. The entries are an excellent representation of historical fiction. | Both journal entries satisfactorily embed facts and accurate information about the American West and the people who traveled there. The entries are a good representation of historical fiction. | One or more of the journal entries somewhat successfully embed facts and accurate information about the American West and the people who traveled there. The entries are a fair representation of historical fiction. | One or more of the journal entries are minimally successful in embedding facts and accurate information about the American West and the people who traveled there. The entries lack in their representation of historical fiction. |