Quick Scale: Grade 7 Writing Stories

The Quick Scale *is a summary of the* Rating Scale *that follows. Both describe student achievement in March-April of the school year.*
Stories are usually expected to be carefully revised, edited, and proofread.

Aspect	Not Yet Within Expectations	Meets Expectations (Minimal Level)	Fully Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations
SNAPSHOT	*The story consists of loosely connected ideas; often very brief or flawed by serious errors.*	*The story is complete and has some detail; quality is often uneven; frequent errors.*	*The story is complete and has some engaging features.*	*The story is expressive and has emotional impact in places.*
MEANING • ideas and information • use of detail	• often very simple; sometimes illogical • few details • little sense of audience	• predictable; may be closely modelled on another work • limited detail • some sense of audience	• straightforward; some individuality or originality • supporting details and description • sense of audience	• plausible; some originality, creativity, sense of voice • "shows" through detail and description • clear awareness of audience
STYLE • clarity, variety, and impact of language	• simple language; may be inappropriate in places • simple and compound sentences; often runs on	• conversational language, with some variety • two or three sentence patterns	• language is varied; some sensory detail, figurative language • variety of sentences	• language is varied; sensory detail and figurative language • flows smoothly; variety of sentences
FORM • beginning, middle, end • sequence • setting • characters • dialogue	• series of events without problem or resolution • often loses focus; ends abruptly • focuses on action; characters are rarely described • dialogue is often confusing	• beginning, middle, and end • series of related events; focus may wander; ending weak • characters presented through direct description • dialogue may sound unnatural	• beginning establishes problem • events develop logically to a believable ending • characters are described; often stereotypic • appropriate dialogue	• engaging beginning reveals problem • believable events, but often unpredictable; ending may have a twist • characters have individuality • effective dialogue
CONVENTIONS • complete sentences • spelling • punctuation • grammar (e.g., agreement, verb tense) • word choice	• frequent errors in simple words and structures • no control of sentence structure; often runs on • may be difficult to read	• some errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar that do not interfere with meaning • may include some run-on sentences • legible	• may include errors in complex language, but these do not interfere with meaning • most sentences are correctly constructed • clearly and neatly presented	• may include occasional errors in complex language, but these do not affect meaning • sentences are correctly constructed • shows care, pride