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Editor:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of essay: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Essay Editing Guide: Instructions written in bold should be completed on the writer’s essay**. Keep in mind the following concepts: Show don’t tell, creating voice, constructing theme.

**Story Elements:**

1**. Identify the type of POV the writer uses**. How is this important?

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2. Does the writer begin with a “plot hook” that interests you?

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3.Does the writer include a conflict structure? How does it affect the theme?

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4.Is the theme of the narrative clearly shown and not told? **How might they include the theme in a more obvious way?**

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5. **In point form, identify the main plot points in this person’s story**. Identify their inciting incident and rising action. Make sure it leads to an eventual climax. Evaluate how strong the conflict is. What might they do to improve?

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6. Does the narrative need to be shown more rather than told? **Explain how this person might accomplish this task.**  
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7. Does the theme link up to the conflict of the story? **If it does not explain how they might link the conflict in with the main purpose of the story.** If the theme and conflict are linked, explain how they might “show” this connection more rather than “tell.”

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8. Is there a clear concept of voice in the story? If not, how might they improve on this? If so, what steps could they take to distinguish one character from another?

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9. Has this person created a voice, acted through the characters, dialogued, described and demonstrated the main point of his/her story? If so, how? If not, how might they achieve this goal?

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10.Has the writer communicated his/her purpose to the reader in a unique/creative way? If so, how? If not, what might they do to improve?

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**Grammar:** Look for the concepts that we have discussed so far.

1. Does the writer incorrectly use pronouns? How many times? **Highlight the pronoun issues as they arise** and give feedback on usage if they don’t understand.

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2. Does the writer switch tenses? How many times? **Highlight the tense issues as they arise** and give feedback on usage if they don’t understand.

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3. Does the writer correctly punctuate the dialogue of the characters**? Highlight any issues as they arise** and give feedback on usage if they don’t understand.

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4. Identify any sentence fragments (F) and run on sentences (ROS.) **Highlight any issues as they arise** and give feedback on usage if they don’t understand.

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5. Do the writer’s verbs and nouns agree in number and tense? **Highlight any issues as they arise** and give feedback on usage if they don’t understand.

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6. If there is anything that is confusing and doesn’t make sense, highlight it on their essay.

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**Final Comment Overview:**

Provide the writer with point form feedback about what improvements or changes could be made to the good copy to make the narrative stronger.

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