Scoring Rubric: Description

Name _____ Date _____

	4	3	2	1
Organization	The description has a stated focus and a clear and appropriate orga- nization, such as spa- tial, chronological, or order of importance. Transitions consistently help readers follow the organization.	The description has a focus and a clear orga- nization, such as spa- tial, chronological, or order of importance. Transitions usually help readers follow the organization.	The description has an organization, but either it needs improvement or it should be changed to a different organiza- tion. Some transitions are used, but more are needed.	The writing does not have a noticeable orga- nization. Transitions may be lacking, and the relationship be- tween details may be hard to understand.
Elements of Description	The overall purpose is clear. Many vivid sen- sory details and apt comparisons help read- ers visualize a person, place, or event. All the details relate to the cen- tral focus and are ap- propriate to the audi- ence. The writer creates a unique description that helps readers share the experience.	The overall purpose is clear. Sensory details and comparisons help readers visualize a per- son, place, or event. Most details relate to the central focus and are appropriate to the audience. The writer creates a realistic de- scription that readers can follow.	The overall purpose is not always clear. Some sensory details and comparisons are used, but more are needed. Extraneous details should be eliminated. The writer creates a de- scription that tells about the experience rather than helps read- ers share it.	The overall purpose may be unclear or nonexistent. Few sen- sory details or compar- isons are included. The description does not help readers visualize a person, place, or event.
Grammar, Usage, Mechanics, and Spelling	There are few or no errors in mechanics, usage, grammar, or spelling. Word choice is consistently careful and precise.	There are minor errors in mechanics, usage, grammar, or spelling. Word choice is usually careful and precise.	There are numerous er- rors in mechanics, usage, grammar, or spelling. Word choice is often general, vague, or imprecise.	Numerous errors in mechanics, usage, grammar, or spelling may hinder comprehen- sion. Word choice is general and imprecise.

Comments _____