**Memoir Rubric –Grade 5**

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| **Criteria** |  **4** |  **3** |  **2** |  **1** |
| **Content** | **I have written about a very important moment in my life and included reflection about how this event has helped to change me. It is easy for my reader to identify the message I wished to reveal about myself through my writing.** | **I have written about an important moment in my life and included some reflection about how this event has helped to change me. The message I wished to reveal about myself to my reader is somewhat clearly presented.** | **I wrote about an event that happened to me but my piece is more about the event that took place rather than about the person it happened to. I attempted to show my reader why this event was important.** | **I wrote a story but it is unclear to my reader how this event was important to me. I did not include reflection and my story does not reveal anything about the type of person I am.** |
| **Elaboration** | **I started my story “in the moment” by starting with either dialogue, action, or with a brief description of the setting. I combed the internal story through the external story by including what happened as well as what I was thinking, remembering, feeling, and wondering in many parts of the story. I stretched out the most important part of my story.** | **I started my story “in the moment” by starting with either dialogue, action, or with a brief description of the setting. I combed the internal story through the external story by including what happened as well as what I was thinking, remembering, feeling, and wondering in some parts of the story. I stretched out the most important part of my story.** | **I tried to begin my story “in the moment” and included only a few examples of what I was thinking, remembering, feeling, and wondering during certain parts of my story. I tried to stretch out the most important part of my story.** | **I did not start my story “in the moment” or include examples of what I was thinking, remembering, feeling, and wondering during parts of my story. I did not stretch out the most important part of the story.** |
| **Organization** | **My writing has a clear topic. I used paragraphs and my story follows a logical sequence. My writing follows the structure of my mentor piece.** | **My writing has a clear topic. I used paragraphs and my story follows a logical sequence. I mostly followed the structure of my mentor piece.** | **I attempted to stay on topic. I have included some paragraphs and tried to follow the structure of my mentor text.** | **My story may not be organized in a sequential order. I did not follow the structure of my mentor text.** |
| **Language Usage** | **My writing is very engaging. It’s easy for my reader to imagine being in my story because I used a lot of sensory images. I used many strong verbs and strong adjectives in my writing.**  | **My writing is mostly engaging. I used some sensory images and included some strong verbs and adjectives.**  | **My writing is somewhat engaging but there are parts that are confusing. I tried to include sensory images and used few strong verbs or adjectives.** | **My writing is not engaging to the reader because it does not have sensory images or strong adjectives or verbs.** |
| **Mechanics** | **My writing contains correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, complete complex sentences and correct use of capitalization.** | **My writing contains few spelling and grammar errors; and has correct punctuation and complete sentences.** | **My writing contains some spelling and grammar errors; most sentences have correct punctuation and are complete. I used simple sentences.**  | **My writing is hard to read and contains many spelling and grammatical errors.** |