

*“The Magic Isle”*

**Resource Summary:** A Smarter Balanced (CAASPP) English/Language Arts practice writing test, using *West of the West’s* “The Magic Isle- Santa Catalina Island” as a video source, along with three other print resources. Students will be asked to complete a task in which they will write a story: Imagine you are hiking on Catalina Channel Island while on vacation. In your story tell about an exciting adventure that you have during your hike.

**Subject Areas:** English Language Arts & Social Studies

**Grade Level Range:** 6-8

**Standards:**

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.4.RI.10 By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in grades 4-5 text complexity band proficiency, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

CCSS.ELA- LITERACY.4.RI.2 Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarizes the text. CCSS.ELA- LITERACY.4.RI.3 Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.4.3

Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences. CCSS.ELA-

LITERACY.5.RI.10 By the end of the year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, at the high end of the grades 4-5 text complexity band independently and proficiently. CCSS.ELA-

LITERACY.5.RI.2 Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize the text. CCSS.ELA- LITERACY.5.RI.3 Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text. CCSS.ELA- LITERACY.5.RI.3 Explain the relationships or interaction between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text based on specific information in the text. CCSS.ELA-

LITERACY.W.5.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences. CCSS.ELA-

LITERACY.W.6.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

**Resource Provided By:** Nichole Hughes, 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade, Summerland Elementary School, Carpinteria Unified School District

**Resource Details:** The school’s writing club is holding a short story contest about “The Great Outdoors”. This student just went to Catalina Island for 6<sup>th</sup> grade camp. They decide to do more research about Catalina Island.

The student will then write a story imagining that they are hiking on Catalina Island and an exciting adventure takes place during their hike.

## ***West of the West* “Magic Isle – Santa Catalina Island” English/Language Arts Practice Grade 4-6 Performance Task**

### **Student Directions**

#### **Hiking on Catalina Island Narrative Performance Task**

##### **Task:**

Your school writing club is holding a short story contest about “The Great Outdoors”. You have often thought about hiking and you wonder what it would be like to hike on Catalina Island. You decide to do more research about Catalina Island and hiking on Catalina Island. As part of your initial research, you find sources about Catalina Island and hiking.

After you have looked at these sources, you will answer some questions about them. Briefly review the resources and the three questions that follow. Then, go back and read the sources carefully so you will have the information you will need to answer the questions and complete your research. You may take notes on the information you find in the sources as you read.

In Part 2, you will write a story on a topic related to the sources.

##### **Directions for Beginning:**

You will now examine several sources. You can re-examine any of the sources as often as you like.

##### **Research Questions:**

After reviewing the research sources, use the rest of the time in Part 1 to answer three questions about them. Your answers to these questions will be scored. Also, your answers will help you think about the information you have read and viewed, which should help you write your story.

You may refer back to your notes when you think it would be helpful. Answer the questions on a separate sheet of paper.

Your notes will be available to you in Part 1 and Part 2 of the performance task.

### **Part 1**

#### **Sources for Performance Task**

##### **Source #1**

This video from *The West of the West* documentary tale “The Magic Isle- Santa Catalina Island” is about how the city of Avalon on the Catalina Island came to be.

## **Watch *The West of the West's* tale “Magic Isle – Santa Catalina Island”**

### **Source #2**

These articles from *The Catalina Nature Conservancy* website are about how to safely hike on Catalina Island. The article talks about the Trans-Catalina Trail, a 37.2-mile trail that tours Catalina's "Interior". This article explains the layout of the trail, important tips, and other helpful hiking information for Catalina Island.

### **On Catalina, All Trails Lead to Fun & Hike the Trans-Catalina Trail**

By Catalina Island Conservancy

#### **ON CATALINA, ALL TRAILS LEAD TO FUN**

##### ***New Trails Give Hikers More Options***

When it comes to outdoor recreation, Catalina Island fills the bill. And as for hiking, Catalina can't be beat. No other Channel Island features the diversity that Catalina has to offer. More than 200 miles of trails beckon both the tennis shoe hiker and the experienced trekker. An assortment of loop trails give day hikers a great glimpse at a variety of Island locales, returning them to where they started. Of course, the grand daddy of them all is the Trans-Catalina Trail, a 37.2-mile trail that transverses the entire Island.

The eastern most trailhead on the Trans-Catalina Trail is the Renton Mine Trail that begins east of the town of Avalon. Once up on the Divide Road, hikers have a bald eagle's eye view of both sides of the Island. Continuing on past the Haypress Recreation Area, hikers are treated to sweeping views of Middle Canyon and Cape Canyon before reaching the beautiful Black Jack Campground. From Blackjack Campground, the trail leads hikers through Cottonwood Canyon to the Airport in the Sky where refreshments and supplies can be enjoyed at the DC3 Gifts & Grill before the downhill trek down Sheep Chute Canyon to the Little Harbor Campgrounds overlooking the Pacific Ocean on the windward side of the Island.

The Trans-Catalina Trail continues north to the colorful boating community of Two Harbors at the Islands Isthmus. There hikers can take advantage of the campgrounds at Two Harbors, or even splurge on a hot meal at the restaurant, or pick up more supplies at the general store.

The trail continues west through the heart of the West End where hikers can enjoy the magnificent solitude that this part of the Island evokes. Trails end is at remote Starlight Beach.

The Trans-Catalina Trail stretches 37.2 miles from the Renton Mine Trailhead on the East End to Starlight Beach on the West End. It winds up hills and down valleys offering spectacular views across the 43,000-acre Nature Preserve of the Catalina Island Conservancy known as Catalina's "Interior." Hikers can enjoy the full length of the Trail.

Cyclists can take on the challenging East End portion. You may hike a single leg of the Trail, or tackle it in its entirety over multiple days. The Catalina Island Conservancy looks forward to welcoming you to explore the wonders of the Trans-Catalina Trail.

Node 1: Avalon to Black Jack

Node 2: Black Jack to Little Harbor

Node 3: Little Harbors to Two Harbors

Node 4: Two Harbors to Parsons Landing

Node 5: Parsons Landing to Starlight Beach

### **IMPORTANT TIPS:**

The Trans-Catalina Trail can be very steep, very exposed, and hot during the summer. When planning your journey please carefully consider the following:

- Know your limitations. Don't attempt hiking or biking the Trail unless you are in good enough physical condition to do so safely.
- Be prepared. Make sure you have comfortable hiking boots, a hat, sunscreen and plenty of water. Potable water is only available on the Trail at Haypress, Black Jack Campground, the Airport and the Isthmus. For sections of the Trail where cycling is permitted, for your safety, a bike with heavy-duty, knobby tires is required (mountain bike).
- Obtain a Hiking Permit before starting out. Hiking Permit information may be found below. Cyclists, see information below regarding Freewheeler Bike Passes.
- Carry a map. Know where you are at on the Trail. Be cognizant of the mile markers along the way.
- Tell family or friends on the mainland where you are going and arrange a check-in time via cell phone so that your welfare is never in question.
- If you get in trouble, call 911 first. Much of the Trail has cell phone access. Calling 911 first, before your battery may go dead, will give rescuers a GPS location of where you are. Make family or friends your second call.
- Rattlesnakes are native to the Island. Depending on the temperature, they may reside under or on top of warm rocks, or be found curled up by the side of the road. Avoid them.
- Bison can be encountered on all parts of the Trail east of the Isthmus. If you encounter bison, move slowly and steadily around them, keeping at least 150 feet away.

### **BIKE PASSES/CYCLING AREAS**

For the safety of hikers, and the enjoyment of cyclists, bikes are permitted on about eight miles of the Trans-Catalina Trail – from along Renton Mine Road, East End Road and Divide Road to Dakin Peak (the microwave tower) on the East End. However, there are nearly 50 miles of dirt roads and nearly 9 miles of paved roads in the interior for mountain bikers to enjoy. Conservancy "Freewheeler" Bike Passes, which include the added benefits of Conservancy membership, can be purchased at Conservancy House in Avalon, the Airport in the Sky and the Visitor's Center in Two Harbors. Call (310) 510-2595 ext. 100 for more information. Become a Member Now! (Includes your Freewheeler Bike Pass).

## **HIKING PERMITS**

Hiking permits are required for all hikers and cyclists who venture into the interior. Hiking permits are free and can be picked up at Conservancy House in Avalon, the Wrigley Memorial & Botanic Garden, Nature Center at Avalon Canyon, the Airport in the Sky, and the Visitor's Center at Two Harbors. Call (310) 510-2595 ext. 100 for more information.

## **CAMPING**

Make all camping reservations through the Santa Catalina Island Company or call: 310-510-8368.

### **For Your Convenience when Camping**

Come to the Island prepared. Catalina has many resources, but unlike the mainland, Island resources are limited. Transportation, lodging, food and other necessities that we take for granted, must be planned well in advance. Here is a comprehensive list of resources for hikers who want to venture out into Catalina's interior. Please visit these sites and make your arrangements before you start your Island adventure.

Sources Used

[http://www.catalinaconservancy.org/index.php?s=visit&p=hike\\_the\\_trans\\_catalina\\_trail](http://www.catalinaconservancy.org/index.php?s=visit&p=hike_the_trans_catalina_trail)

<http://www.catalinaconservancy.org/index.php?s=visit&p=hiking>

### **Source #3**

This article from *MountainandSea.org* website is about hiking on Catalina Island.

### **A Users Guide To The Best Hiking Trails on Catalina Island**

By MountainandSea.org

Hiking on Catalina Island is an extraordinary experience, nowhere else can you access such an abundance wildlife and scenic beauty. Catalina is an exceptionally well-maintained nature preserve with some of the most awe-inspiring scenery in the world. With the fact that it is only an hour across the channel from the port of Los Angeles, the many various trails and campgrounds offer a very valuable and easily accessible resource to nature enthusiasts.

There is a wide variety of trails and campgrounds on Catalina Island, ranging to relative easy to access, such as Hermit's Gulch just on the outskirts of the island village of Avalon, to more remote sites such as Parson's Landing on the west end of the island, or Black Jack campground at an elevation of 1600 ft.

### **Trans Catalina Trail:**

The trans Catalina trail is the most popular trail, it can be said to be the main trail that runs the breadth of Catalina Island, from the east end to the west. A total of 37.2 miles long, the trans Catalina trail begins in Avalon and ends at Starlight Beach on the extreme west end of island.



There are many smaller trails people do which are segments of the trans Catalina trail, to do the entire trail from beginning to end takes a dedication of several days and is only for the most avid and serious backpackers.

Although most parts of the trail have been blazed for decades, the trail got its official status only as recently as 2009. A good portion of the trail is well-used dirt roads, but other segments are relatively new.

Most people who do the full trail begin in Avalon and do the most challenging leg first, which is a 15 miles trek to Black Jack campground, which is nearby the highest point on the island, Mt. Orizaba. The next day could easily be Little Harbor or **Two Harbors**. The third day you can make it all the way to Starlight Beach. Day four can involve hiking back to **Two Harbors** and taking the ferry from there or catching a bus back to Avalon.

### **Hermit Gulch Trail Loop:**

Just beyond the Hermit Gulch campground turn right to follow the signs towards the Hermit Gulch trail. This trail is 11.75 miles long and offers breathtaking ocean views and a broad range of biodiversity; the top of the trail is a panoramic view over Avalon and the channel.

### **Two Harbors to Little Harbor Campground:**

This stretch of the trans Catalina trail is 5.6 miles long, and runs right along coast of the back-end of the island, offering amazing scenery. This is a relatively easy stretch of the trail and perfect for the beginner to intermediate ranged backpacker.



Photo courtesy of [www.mountainphotographer.com](http://www.mountainphotographer.com)

From **Two Harbors** walk up the road leading to the Banning House, but instead of turning up the driveway to the bread and breakfast just continue along the road until you come to the trail head, which is noticeable because it departs the main road and follows the edge of the coast line.

Arriving at Little Harbor is an experience unto itself; it looks like a tropical oasis with short stubby palm trees and lots of green grass. The atmosphere at Little Harbor is very relaxed and charming, it feels like you're on the opposite side of the world!

For those planning a more leisurely holiday and want to bring along more gear for outing, a bus runs multiple times a day from Little Harbor, tickets can be purchased from the visitors center at the base of the pier.

The fact you can take a bus to Little Harbor also means you can leave from there on your hike to reach even more remote destinations on the island, such as Ben Weston, a popular but very secluded island beach.

### **Two Harbors to Parsons Landing or Starlight Beach:**



Photo courtesy of: [www.mountainphotographer.com](http://www.mountainphotographer.com)

Another popular route is to follow the main dirt road out of town from *Two Harbors* towards *Emerald Bay*. Once you get to *Emerald Bay* continue following the dirt road towards Parsons Landing. There is a campground there, or you can continue on the trans Catalina trail towards Starlight Beach.

Hiking and camping on Catalina Island requires a permit, which can easily be acquired from the visitor's center in either *Two Harbors* or Avalon. In even the most remote campgrounds, your reservation guarantees you access to a locker with a cord of firewood and 2.5 gallons of drinking water.

Source Used

<http://mountainandsea.org/a-users-guide-to-the-best-hiking-trails-on-catalina-island/>

#### **Source #4**

This article from *The New York Times* newspaper is about how The Santa Catalina Island Company is luring tourists to Catalina Island, along with the Catalina Island Conservancy.

### **A California Island, Ready for Its Face-Lift**

By Susan Stellan

Santa CATALINA ISLAND, Calif.

ASK Southern Californians if they have been to Santa Catalina Island, an hour-long ferry ride from Long Beach, and the answer will most likely be, "I went there when I was a kid, but haven't been back in years."

The Santa Catalina Island Company would like to change that. It's spending \$11 million to entice a more globetrotting generation of visitors, with new attractions like a zip line that carries riders from 600 feet above sea level through a canyon down to the beach. "What we're trying to do is create a little bit of a renaissance for Catalina," said Brad Wilson, chief marketing officer for the company. "We want to offer activities that would better suit the current traveler."

Despite its proximity to the wealthy California coast, the 22-mile-long rocky island has never become the American equivalent of Capri in Italy. Once a destination for big bands and ballroom dancing at the famous Casino — which is not actually a gambling spot — Catalina evolved into a quaint, family-friendly destination, better known for waffle cones and glass-bottom boat rides than for fine dining or hotels with fancy sheets.

Not that there's anything wrong with that. For many people, Catalina's slow pace and the sense you get of stepping back in time are crucial to its appeal. Its main town, Avalon, is only one square mile, a picturesque scene as you approach the harbor by



ferry, and golf carts are the primary form of transportation. (The number of cars on the island has been restricted since the 1970s.)

“If you were to stand out on the pier,” Mr. Wilson said, “and take a photo looking back at the town and compare it to one taken 60 years ago, you’d be hard pressed to see a change.”

The challenge for the Santa Catalina Island Company, which owns 10 percent of the island, is preserving that picture while at the same time bolstering tourism — the lifeblood of the local economy.

Most of the remaining land is owned by the Catalina Island Conservancy, a nonprofit created in 1972 to preserve the island in its natural state. Members of the Wrigley family — the chewing gum Wrigley’s, who owned the island — deeded 88 percent of the land to the Conservancy, guaranteeing that it would remain largely undeveloped.

That has set up an odd situation on the island, which resembles a less tropical version of the landscape on the television show “Lost.” Catalina residents (there are about 4,000) refer to the Conservancy land as the interior, and most tourists — and many who live on the island — never venture beyond the gates dividing the Conservancy property from Avalon’s gift shops and piers (other than on packaged tram tours).

The zip line represents a tentative effort to bridge that divide. It starts in the hills near the Conservancy gate and descends in five separate zips between platforms, where educational signs highlight facts about the wildlife and scenery. Riders harnessed to overhead cables with pulleys get to experience the island’s natural side as they whiz by, with views of the ocean along the way.

“There’s an opt-out if it freaks you out after the first zip,” Mr. Wilson said. “You’re pretty committed after that.”

During a visit in mid-April, the zip line was just one of the projects construction workers were rushing to finish before the island’s peak summer season begins in late May.

The Descanso Beach Club, a short walk from Avalon, was getting a face-lift, with private cabanas and a fresh look for the outdoor restaurant and bars. The Descanso will be a hub for waterfront activities like kayaking and snorkeling, as well as a new Sea Trek Undersea Adventure, a tour that will outfit guests in special diving helmets for a walk along an underwater trail.

No diving experience is required for that tour, but Catalina is also a popular scuba diving destination, known for its kelp forests and shipwrecks.

What the island is not known for is great dining, though that is starting to change. When I was in town, I had sushi for dinner at C. C. Gallagher, a cafe that is also a gallery and wine store and feels refreshingly like a neighborhood hangout.

For lunch, I bypassed the kid-pleasing pizza shops and hamburger joints along the waterfront and found healthier sandwiches and salads at Cafe Metropole, a true traveler's oasis, with patio seating. It's the kind of place anyone who eats vegetables is thrilled to find in a town that mostly caters to tourists, especially boardwalk or seaside destinations that lean heavily toward fried things.

This month the Santa Catalina Island Company is adding another new restaurant to the mix: the Avalon Grille, which overlooks the harbor and aims to become an upscale watering hole, with a horseshoe bar as its centerpiece and doors that open to sidewalk tables. The menu I saw seemed to balance seafood and American grill fare with a few creative twists, like ahi tuna tostadas — trying to appeal to a more sophisticated palate without alienating parents traveling with kids.

Catalina's hotels face the same challenge. One frequent visitor described the island's lodging options as unmemorable, though that is also starting to change. I stayed at the Avalon Hotel, which was renovated a few years ago in a Craftsman style, mixing mahogany wood with tile artwork. (Catalina is known for its pottery and tile.) I was pleasantly surprised by the décor, the harbor view from my window — with an even better view from the roof deck — and all the free amenities, like Internet access, a continental breakfast and even bottled water, iced tea and a bag of microwavable popcorn in the room (brilliant idea!). The midweek, off-season rate starts at \$195; summer rates are higher, but there are still affordable, if more bare bones, options in town.

With development on the island heavily restricted — Avalon's buildings are limited to two stories — most of the hotels are small and modest, which has kept the big chains away. But another recent renovation project is the makeover that the Santa Catalina Island Company gave its Pavilion Hotel, a midcentury motel that was spruced up with new furnishings, a wine bar and private lanais (outdoor sitting areas). For more outdoorsy visitors, five campgrounds are available on Conservancy land, and last year a new 37.2-mile Trans-Catalina Trail was completed, running the length of the hilly island. There are also shorter hiking options, including a trail near the Wrigley Memorial Garden, about a 15-minute walk from town. Ann Muscat, president of the Catalina Island Conservancy, said there were other ideas on the drawing board to make the island's interior more accessible to visitors, like a nature center, a tearoom at the garden and higher-amenity camping options. (The existing campgrounds are rather rugged.)

“Our goal is to have people realize that Catalina isn't just Avalon,” she said, explaining that exposing people to the island's landscape is part of the Conservancy's mission to preserve and protect the land. “We have a responsibility to take care of this land forever. A slogan is ‘California the way it was,’ and while that may sound trite, it's true.” On the ferry pulling away from the island and heading back to busy freeways and life's demands, porpoises surfacing nearby and gulls flying overhead, you realize that it is.

Source Used

<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2010/05/14/travel/14catalina.html>

**Questions:**

1. Some of the sources suggest there are certain rules that people should follow when they decided to go on a hike. Provide **two** pieces of evidence, which supports this idea and explain how each piece of evidence supports this idea. Identify the source for each piece of evidence by title or number.
2. Most of the sources provide information about hiking. Which source would be **most** relevant to students researching how to get enjoyment out of Catalina Island? Justify and support your answer with **two** pieces of evidence from the **most** relevant source.
3. Write the main idea(s) for each source. Some sources may have more than one main idea.

**Student Directions**

**Hiking on Catalina Island Narrative Performance Task**

**Part 2**

You will now review your notes and sources, and plan, draft, revise, and edit your writing. You may use your notes and go back to the sources. Now read your assignment and information about how your writing will be scored, then begin your work.

**Your Assignment:**

Your school writing club is creating an online magazine that is a collection of fictional stories about “The Great Outdoors.” You choose to write a story that is several paragraphs long to include in the online magazine. For your story, imagine that you are hiking on Catalina Island. In your story tell about an exciting adventure that you have during your hike.

The online magazine will be read by parents, teachers, and the other students in your school. When writing your story, find ways to use information and details from the sources to improve your story. Make sure you develop your character(s), the setting, and the plot. Use details, dialogue, and description where appropriate.

**Narrative Story Scoring:**

Your story will be scored using the following:

1. **Organization/purpose:** How effective was your plot, and did you main a logical sequence of events from beginning to end? How well did you establish and develop a setting, narrative, characters, and clear point of view? How well did you use a variety of transitions? How effective were your opening and closing for your audience and purpose?

2. **Development/elaboration:** How well did you develop your narrative using description, details, and dialogue? How well did you use relevant details or information from the sources in your story?
3. **Conventions:** How well did you follow the rules of grammar usage, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling?

**Now begin work on your story.** Manage your time carefully so that you can:

- Plan your multi-paragraph story.
- Write your multi-paragraph story.
- Revise and edit the final draft of your multi-paragraph story.

Word-processing tools and spell check are available to you.

For Part 2, you are being asked to write a story that is several paragraphs long, so please be as thorough as possible. Type your response.

Remember to check your notes and your pre-writing/planning as you write and then revise and edit your story.

## Smarter Balanced Grade 3-8 Opinion Writing Rubric:

4-Point Narrative Performance Task Writing Rubric (Grades 3-8)					
Score	4	3	2	1	NS
Organization/Purpose	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is fully sustained and the focus is clear and maintained throughout:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an effective plot helps to create a sense of unity and completeness</li> <li>effectively establishes a setting, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</li> <li>consistent use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas; strong connection between and among ideas</li> <li>natural, logical sequence of events from beginning to end</li> <li>effective opening and closure for audience and purpose</li> </ul>	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is adequately sustained, and the focus is adequate and generally maintained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an evident plot helps to create a sense of unity and completeness, though there may be minor flaws and some ideas may be loosely connected</li> <li>adequately establishes a setting, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</li> <li>adequate use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas</li> <li>adequate sequence of events from beginning to end</li> <li>adequate opening and closure for audience and purpose</li> </ul>	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, is somewhat sustained and may have an uneven focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>there may be an inconsistent plot, and/or flaws may be evident</li> <li>unevenly or minimally establishes a setting, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</li> <li>uneven use of appropriate transitional strategies and/or little variety</li> <li>weak or uneven sequence of events</li> <li>opening and closure, if present, are weak</li> </ul>	<p>The organization of the narrative, real or imagined, may be maintained but may provide little or no focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>there is little or no discernible plot or there may just be a series of events</li> <li>may be brief or there is little to no attempt to establish a setting, narrator/characters, and/or point of view*</li> <li>few or no appropriate transitional strategies may be evident and may cause confusion</li> <li>little or no organization of an event sequence; frequent extraneous ideas and/or a major drift may be evident</li> <li>opening and/or closure may be missing or unsatisfactory</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>insufficient (includes copied text)</li> <li>in a language other than English</li> <li>Off-topic</li> <li>Off-purpose</li> </ul>

\*point of view begins at grade 7

Source Used

[http://www.caaspp.org/rsc/resources/2016\\_Grade6ELAPerformanceTask\\_BraillePerformanceTask.pdf](http://www.caaspp.org/rsc/resources/2016_Grade6ELAPerformanceTask_BraillePerformanceTask.pdf)

**4-Point  
Narrative  
Performance Task Writing Rubric (Grades 3–8)**

Score	4	3	2	1	NS
<b>Development/Elaboration</b>	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides thorough, effective elaboration using relevant details, dialogue, and/or description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting and/or events are clearly developed</li> <li>connections to source materials may enhance the narrative</li> <li>effective use of a variety of narrative techniques that advance the story or illustrate the experience</li> <li>effective use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that clearly advances the purpose</li> <li>effective, appropriate style enhances the narration</li> </ul>	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides adequate elaboration using details, dialogue, and/or description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting, and/or events are adequately developed</li> <li>connections to source materials may contribute to the narrative</li> <li>adequate use of a variety of narrative techniques that generally advance the story or illustrate the experience</li> <li>adequate use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that generally advances the purpose</li> <li>generally appropriate style is evident</li> </ul>	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides uneven, cursory elaboration using partial and uneven details, dialogue, and/or description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting, and/or events are unevenly developed</li> <li>connections to source materials may be ineffective, awkward, or vague but do not interfere with the narrative</li> <li>narrative techniques are uneven and inconsistent</li> <li>partial or weak use of sensory, concrete, and figurative language that may not advance the purpose</li> <li>inconsistent or weak attempt to create appropriate style</li> </ul>	<p>The narrative, real or imagined, provides minimal elaboration using few or no details, dialogue, and/or description:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>experiences, characters, setting, and/or events may be vague, lack clarity, or confusing</li> <li>connections to source materials, if evident, may detract from the narrative</li> <li>use of narrative techniques may be minimal, absent, incorrect, or irrelevant</li> <li>may have little or no use of sensory, concrete, or figurative language; language does not advance and may interfere with the purpose</li> <li>little or no evidence of appropriate style</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insufficient (includes copied text)</li> <li>In a language other than English</li> <li>Off-topi:</li> <li>Off-purpose</li> </ul>

2-Point Narrative Performance Task Writing Rubric (Grades 3-8)				
Score	2	1	0	NS
Conventions	<p>The response demonstrates an adequate command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adequate use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li> </ul>	<p>The response demonstrates a partial command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>limited use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li> </ul>	<p>The response demonstrates little or no command of conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>infrequent use of correct sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>insufficient (includes copied text)</li> <li>In a language other than English</li> <li>Off-topic</li> <li>Off-purpose</li> </ul>

**Holistic Scoring:**

- Variety:** A range of errors includes sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling
- Severity:** Basic errors are more heavily weighted than higher-level errors.
- Density:** The proportion of errors to the amount of writing done well. This includes the ratio of errors to the length of the piece.

**Additional Resources:**

<http://www.catalinaconservancy.org/index.php?s=visit&p=hiking>

[http://www.catalinaconservancy.org/index.php?s=visit&p=hike\\_the\\_trans\\_catalina\\_trail](http://www.catalinaconservancy.org/index.php?s=visit&p=hike_the_trans_catalina_trail)

<http://mountainandsea.org/a-users-guide-to-the-best-hiking-trails-on-catalina-island/>

<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2010/05/14/travel/14catalina.html>