

GRADING RUBRIC FOR LITERARY NONFICTION

Below are the elements of writing, taken from the Checklist for Stories, I use as the grading rubric for this assignment.

LITERARY NONFICTION GRADING RUBRIC

Creative title on the essay	5 pts	
First sentence interesting, surprising, or captivating enough to pull the reader into the narrative.	5 pts	
Dialogue used to appropriately to capture essence of character(s) and story.	10 pts	
Narrative written in present tense where appropriate.	5 pts	
Is there a focus on writing sentences in active voice? Active voice is the preferred voice for magazine and news writing.	10 pts	
Unnecessary helping verbs cut.	5 pts	
Clichés cut. Good use of creative similes and metaphors.	10 pts	
Overuse of indefinite pronouns (it, they, them, etc.) as the subject of the sentence.	5 pts	
All adjectives and adverbs and replaced with concrete descriptions.	10 pts	
Scenes described using concrete nouns and verbs, and all five senses.	10 pts	
Essay formatted AP or Chicago style - meets 1,500 word assignment.	5 pts	
Overall organization well-structured to support main idea/purpose of the story.	10	
Proper grammar, punctuation, spelling.	10 pts	

TOTAL: 100 POINTS