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| **Below Basic 1** | Responses show that the writer   * assumes experience that prompted reflection is implicit in the response | * uses only simple, obvious statements | * does not have coherence in writing * is not organized in writing |
| **Basic 2** | Responses show that the writer   * does not go deeply enough into the reflection * talks too much about himself/herself instead of the experience * uses concrete detail * is limited to flimsy generalizations | * uses only simple, generic language | * has lapses in coherence * has the tendency to digress |
| **Proficient 3** | Responses show that the writer   * effectively focuses on a single subject including related experiences and observations * is thoughtful, convincing, insightful, and exploratory * is firmly grounded in the subject * reveals a strong connection between the subject and the experience(s) * analyzes the experience by looking at more than one angle * explores the subject in personal and general reflections | * presents the experience through use of concrete, sensory language, quotations, and narrative accounts that effectively use dialogue, action, and pacing * uses precise language | * achieves unity through a natural progression of ideas |
| **Advanced 4** | Responses show that the writer   * meets all the criteria listed in Score Point 3 * memorably presents the experience for the reflection * is creative and original * makes the reader understand the abstract ideas underlying the reflection through use of specific detail | * uses language to be convincing * implicitly reveals feelings and thoughts through presentation of the experience * consistently uses appropriate language * reveals ideas through use of comparison and imagery | * shows deep insight through a natural flow of ideas and an effective conclusion |
|  | Content | Language Use & Style | Organization |