





Grade 3- 5 ~ Informative/Explanatory Writing Rubric

Students write texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Topic/Genre: _____ Date: _____ Name: _____

| Writing Concept: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| Ideas  <p>Ideas are clearly focused on the topic and are skillfully developed with relevant details, information and examples from a variety of sources.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ main idea is focused, clearly stated and strongly maintained ✓ effective and well-crafted introduction and conclusion ✓ smoothly integrates comprehensive, concrete and relevant facts, definitions, details, quotations and/or examples related to the topic * | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ main idea is generally focused and for the most part maintained throughout ✓ adequate introduction and conclusion ✓ some evidence of sources include facts, definitions, details, quotations and/or examples generally related to the topic * | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ main idea may be unclear, unfocused or insufficiently maintained ✓ introduction and conclusion, if present, are weak ✓ evidence of sources is limited, uneven and/or weakly integrated * | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ response may be very brief, have little or no focus, may be confusing or ambiguous ✓ introduction and/or conclusion are ineffective, incomplete, or missing ✓ little or no use of sources, with minimal, extraneous, inaccurate or irrelevant ideas * |
| Organization  <p>Organization & connections between ideas are clear, logical and appropriate for the context and unify the piece.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ effectively groups information logically and sequentially from beginning to end (topic, body, conclusion) ✓ skillfully uses a variety of transitional strategies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ adequately groups information from beginning to end (topic, body, conclusion) ✓ adequate use of transitional strategies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ uneven progression of ideas from beginning to end (topic, body and conclusion) ✓ inconsistent use of transitional strategies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ confusing progression of ideas indicates little or no organizational structure ✓ ineffective or no use of transitions |
| Style  <p>Command of language, including dynamic word choice and varied sentence structure, is highly effective for the author's purpose and audience.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ uses exceptionally precise language and domain-specific academic vocabulary appropriate for the task ✓ varied and effective sentence structure with multiple elaborative techniques | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ adequately expresses ideas with a mix of precise and general language and domain-specific academic vocabulary ✓ varied sentence structure and elaborative techniques | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ simplistic language and domain-specific academic vocabulary may at times be inappropriate for the task ✓ uneven or simplistic sentence structure with weak elaborative techniques | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ uses limited or vague language or domain-specific vocabulary with little sense of purpose ✓ inconsistent or confusing sentence structure with limited or no elaboration |
| Conventions  <p>Conventions of Standard English for grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization, & punctuation for the grade level are consistently used.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ few, if any errors in usage and sentence formation ✓ effective and consistent use of punctuation, capitalization and spelling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ some errors in usage and sentence formation are hardly noticeable and do not interfere with meaning ✓ adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ frequent errors in usage are noticeable and may obscure meaning ✓ inconsistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ writing is difficult to follow and understand ✓ lack of control over conventions and usage is frequent and severe |

* Response may include well-crafted formatting (ex: headings) illustrations and multimedia when appropriate