

Informative/Explanatory Writing Rubric

Score	Focus	Organization	Development	Language and Vocabulary	Conventions
4	Topic and main ideas are clearly conveyed and well supported. Response is focused.	Organization is clear and effective. Strong use of transitions.	Support is relevant and includes strong facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, and examples.	Ideas are clearly and effectively conveyed using precise language and domain-specific vocabulary.	Command of conventions is strongly demonstrated.
3	Topic and main ideas are clear and adequately supported. Response is generally focused.	Organization is clear, though minor flaws may be present and some ideas may be disconnected. Adequate use of transitions.	Support is adequate and includes facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, and examples.	Ideas are adequately conveyed using both precise and more general language; may include domain-specific vocabulary.	Command of conventions is sufficiently demonstrated.
2	Topic and main ideas are somewhat supported; lacks focus or includes unnecessary material.	Organization is inconsistent, and flaws are apparent. Incorrect or insufficient use of transitions.	Support is uneven or incomplete; insufficient use of facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, and examples.	Ideas are unevenly conveyed using overly simplistic language; lacks domain-specific vocabulary.	Command of conventions is uneven.
1	Topic and main ideas are unfocused and insufficiently supported.	Organization is poor or nonexistent. Transitions are minimal or absent.	Support is weak or nonexistent.	Ideas are conveyed in a vague, unclear, or confusing manner.	There is very little command of conventions.
0	Possible characteristics that would warrant a 0: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No response is given. Student does not demonstrate adequate command of informative/explanatory writing traits. Response is unintelligible, illegible, or off topic. 				