

Informative/Explanatory Writing Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Focus/Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds skillfully to all parts of the prompt • Demonstrates a strong understanding of topic/text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds to all parts of the prompt • Demonstrates an understanding of topic/text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds to most parts of the prompt • Demonstrates limited understanding of topic/text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds to some or no parts of the prompt • Does not demonstrate understanding of topic/text
Organization/clarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neat penmanship • Organizes information into paragraph structure using a clear topic sentence, facts grouped by related information, and concluding sentence • Develops topic skillfully with facts/definitions/details • Skillfully uses linking words to connect details to topic sentence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legible penmanship • Organizes information into paragraph structure using a clear topic sentence, facts and concluding sentence • Develops topic with facts and definitions • Uses linking words to connect details to topic sentence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unclear penmanship (letters, words unclear) • Organizes information in an incomplete paragraph (e.g. missing conclusion) • Develops the topic with limited facts and definitions • Uses at least one linking word 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not write legibly • Organizes with no evidence of paragraph structure • Uses few to no facts or definitions • Uses no linking words
Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capitalizes correctly and consistently with no errors; first word in a sentence, "I", proper nouns and titles • Uses commas, apostrophes and end punctuations all of the time • Applies above grade level spelling rules and patterns correctly, including irregular and HFVVs; no errors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capitalizes correctly and consistently with minor errors; first word in a sentence, "I", proper nouns and titles • Uses commas, apostrophes and end punctuations most of the time • Applies grade level spelling rules and patterns correctly; few to no errors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capitalizes correctly and consistently with errors; first word in a sentence, "I", proper nouns and titles • Uses commas, apostrophes and end punctuations some of the time • Applies some grade level spelling rules and patterns correctly; some errors and phonetic spelling interfere with readability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capitalizes incorrectly with many errors; first word in a sentence, "I", proper nouns and titles • Uses commas, apostrophes and end punctuations incorrectly or not at all • Misapplies grade level spelling through phonetic spelling; excessive errors interfere with readability
Language/Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses a variety of pronouns correctly • Uses verb tenses and plural nouns correctly, including irregular forms • Produces correct simple and complex sentences • Uses above grade level vocabulary words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses pronouns correctly • Uses verb tenses and plural nouns correctly, including some irregular forms (is/was, child/children) • Produces correct simple sentences • Uses grade level vocabulary words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses pronouns correctly some of the time • Uses some regular verb tenses and common plural nouns correctly • Produces mostly correct and complete sentences • Uses basic language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses pronouns incorrectly • Uses verb tenses and plural nouns incorrectly • Produces mostly incorrect sentences • Uses words incorrectly

Technology: +/-