



# Informational Writing Rubric

Grade 5

	1 Beginning	2 Approaching	3 Developing	4 Proficient	5 Advanced
<b>Claim</b> Weight: 3x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This piece of writing does not have a specific claim or main idea that tells what the piece will teach or explain. The piece does not yet address the prompt.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This piece of writing suggests a claim, but it is not specific enough to let readers know exactly what the piece will cover. Some parts of the prompt may not be answered completely.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This piece of writing provides a specific claim statement about a topic. (A claim is also sometimes called the main idea or thesis.) The claim answers all parts of the prompt effectively.</li> </ul>
<b>Evidence</b> Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This piece does not yet include the facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples it needs to support the claim.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This piece contains some evidence but not enough to develop support for the claim.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The claim is effectively supported with well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information.</li> </ul>
<b>Reasoning</b> Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This piece does not yet include an explanation of the facts and details or how they support the claim.</li> <li>The language is not specific to the subject matter or precise enough to make clear connections between the evidence and the claim which readers need to follow the writer's thoughts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This piece includes some explanations to connect the evidence to the claim, but other facts and details are not linked clearly to the claim through clear explanations.</li> <li>Some precise and topic-related vocabulary shows the connections between the evidence and the claim, but other words are less focused, so the connections are less clear.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear explanations of facts, details, quotations, and examples show how the evidence develops and supports the claim.</li> <li>This piece uses precise language and vocabulary related to the topic to show the connections between the evidence and the claim.</li> </ul>
<b>Coherence</b> Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This piece does not yet have an introduction to the topic.</li> <li>The ideas in this piece of writing are not yet organized into related groups that make it easy for readers to understand how they relate to the topic.</li> <li>This piece does not yet contain transition words and phrases to connect ideas or show relationships between them.</li> <li>This piece does not yet include a conclusion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This piece contains an introduction that is not yet fully developed. A claim is suggested, but it is not yet clear and specific in its focus.</li> <li>This piece is divided into paragraphs or sections, but some related ideas are not grouped appropriately.</li> <li>This piece contains some transitions to connect similar ideas within a group or topic, but linking words, phrases, and clauses are needed to connect ideas across different groups or topics.</li> <li>This piece of writing includes a concluding statement or section that is not yet fully related to the information presented or developed into an effective conclusion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The introduction effectively grabs readers' attention with a general observation and then narrows to a specific focus to introduce the topic or claim.</li> <li>All related information is grouped together in paragraphs or sections to clearly and logically support the claim.</li> <li>This piece uses transitional words, phrases, and clauses to connect ideas and clarify relationships between them (e.g., in contrast, especially, etc.). Appropriate transitions link ideas within groups and across different groups of ideas.</li> <li>This piece of writing includes an effective and well-written concluding statement or section.</li> </ul>
<b>Audience Appeal</b> Weight: 2x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The writing shows the need for additional support in developing the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The writing is challenging to read at times, because of errors in standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling, and can achieve more with revision.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3, perhaps containing only minor but consistent errors, but has not fully met the criteria for level 5.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The writing displays accurate English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling and has very few errors.</li> </ul>