



Informational Writing Rubric

Grade 4

	1 Beginning	2 Approaching	3 Developing	4 Proficient	5 Advanced
Claim Weight: 3x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
Evidence Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece of writing does not yet include the facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples it needs to support the claim. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece of writing contains some evidence to support the claim, but it does not include enough evidence or examples to develop the claim fully. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A variety of well-chosen pieces of evidence, including facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples support the claim effectively.
Reasoning Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece does not yet include an explanation of the facts and details or how they support the claim. Formal and precise language that could be used to make clear connections between the evidence and the claim is not yet present. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece includes some explanations to connect the evidence to the claim, but other facts and details are not linked clearly to the claim. The language used in the piece is, at times, precise and related to the topic, but at other times the explanations and connections are not clear. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear explanations of facts, details, quotations, and examples show how the evidence develops and supports the claim. This piece uses precise language and vocabulary related to the topic to show the connections between the evidence and the claim.
Coherence Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece does not yet have an introduction to the topic. 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. This piece does not yet contain transition words and phrases to connect ideas or show relationships between them. This piece does not yet include a conclusion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece of writing contains an introduction that suggests the topic, but it does not yet focus the readers on the specific claim about the topic or grab the reader's attention. This piece of writing is divided into paragraphs or sections, but some related ideas are not grouped together in a way that helps the reader understand effectively. This piece of writing contains some transitions to connect the ideas, but some ideas are not linked logically with transitions. 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece includes a clear introduction to the topic that grabs the reader's attention. All related information is grouped together in paragraphs or sections to clearly and logically support the claim. A variety of appropriate transitions connect ideas and clarify relationships between them (e.g., another, for example, also, because). This piece of writing includes an effective and well-written concluding statement or section.
Audience Appeal Weight: 2x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing shows the need for additional support in developing the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing displays accurate English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling and has very few errors.