

Four-Point Scoring Rubric

	1 Experimenting	2 Developing	3 Effective	4 Strong
Ideas the meaning and development of the message	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Searching for a topic ● Information limited or missing ● No meaningful details ● Disconnected thoughts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Beginning to define topic ● Lacks specific information ● Vague details ● Glimmer of main point 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Topic defined but broad ● Content clear but reader still left with questions ● Detail support attempted ● Begins to develop theme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Narrow and manageable topic ● Goes beyond the obvious or predictable ● Relevant, accurate details ● Shows connections/insights
Organization the internal structure of the piece	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No lead or conclusion ● Sequencing and pacing not present ● Connections are confusing or not present ● Hard to follow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ineffective lead and conclusion ● Sequencing and pacing confusing ● Connections awkward ● Formulaic structure detracts from content 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Routine lead and conclusion ● Mostly logical sequencing and pacing ● Predictable connections ● Basic beginning, middle, ending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Inviting introduction and satisfying conclusion ● Effective sequencing and pacing ● Thoughtful transitions ● Smooth organization
Voice the way the writer brings the topic to life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No concern for audience ● Lifeless and mechanical ● Flat or inappropriate ● Purpose not present 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Occasionally intrigues the reader ● Generally "risk free" ● Sits on the surface ● Purpose lacks conviction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reader/writer connection present but not strong ● Pleasing yet "safe" ● Energy level inconsistent ● Purpose is credible but not powerful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Effective and strong reader/writer connection ● Takes risks ● Reflects interest in and commitment to topic ● Purpose is powerful and engaging
Word Choice the specific vocabulary the writer uses to convey meaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vocabulary is limited ● Simple words used incorrectly ● No figurative language ● Words do not convey meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Generally correct words; no spice ● Language is functional ● Attempt at figurative language ● Words convey general meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Some active verbs and precise nouns ● Moments of sparkle here and there ● Effective use of figurative language ● Words enhance the meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Powerful and engaging words ● Wording accurate/specific/precise ● Artful use of figurative language ● Words/language creates meaningful pictures
Sentence Fluency the way the words and phrases flow throughout the text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Choppy, rambling, or incomplete ● No "sentence sense" ● Oral reading difficult ● Repetitive beginnings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Phrasing effects readability ● Sentence structure impairs understanding ● Parts invite oral reading ● Too many sentences begin the same way 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sentences more mechanical than fluid ● Sentences usually hang together ● Can be read aloud easily ● Sentences begin differently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Easy flow and rhythm ● Strong and varied sentence structure ● Invites expressive reading ● Overall sentence structure enhances meaning
Conventions the mechanical correctness of the piece	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spelling errors impede readability ● Incorrect punctuation and capitalization ● Many usage and grammar errors ● Lack of paragraphing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spelling correct on common words ● End punctuation and easy capitalization mostly correct ● Grammar errors not serious ● Paragraphing irregular 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spelling generally correct ● Punctuation and capitalization usually correct ● Grammar and usage are correct ● Paragraphing correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spelling correct even on more difficult words ● Accurate punctuation and capitalization ● Grammar and usage contribute to clarity ● Paragraphing enhances style
Presentation the overall appearance of the work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Handwriting unreadable ● Random or lack of spacing ● Poor use of white space ● Overall appearance is unacceptable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Handwriting poor ● Some thought given to spacing ● Attempts at margins and headers ● Overall appearance is distracting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Handwriting mostly legible ● Spacing improves clarity ● Margins and headers effective ● Overall appearance is acceptable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Handwriting is consistent and uniform ● Good balance of space and text ● Effectively integrates graphic elements ● Overall appearance is pleasing