



Third- Fifth Grade Expository Writing Rubric

Name _____

Date _____

Score	Organization/Progression <i>How clear is it?</i>	Development of Ideas <i>How deep is it?</i>	Use of Language and Conventions <i>How well is it done?</i>
4 Above Grade Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds well to the prompt • Focuses on a strong central idea • ALL ideas clearly support the central idea • Sentences build upon one another • Writing has meaningful transitions • Organizational strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thought-provoking & engaging • Specific, well-chosen details add to central idea • Examples are well-chosen • Uses point of view to connect ideas • Ideas are connected in interesting ways • Development adds substance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word choice is purposeful and precise • Variety of interesting, effective sentences • Well-controlled sentences • Very few errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar (if any, they don't distract from meaning).
3 Strong on Grade Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responds to the prompt • Has a central idea (mostly stays on topic) • Most ideas are related to the central idea • Sentences are logically connected • Organizational strategies are visible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thoughtful & original • Most details support the central idea • Examples support central idea • Ideas are connected, but point of view may not be fully explained • Development is apparent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word choice is specific and clear • Varied and controlled sentences are effective • Few errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar. (if any, they create very few disruptions for the reader)
2 At Grade Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Somewhat suited to the purpose of the prompt • Central idea is not very clear but some ideas related to the topic • Sentences may not clearly connect to each other • Some repetition of words or ideas • Some structure, but may have abrupt shifts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface level ideas • A few details • Details too short or do not support or connect • Might not communicate an understanding of the prompt • Minimal development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word choice is general and imprecise (basic vocabulary) • Choppy but mostly correct sentences • Some awkward sentences • Some errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar make it hard to understand and/or read aloud
1 Not at Grade Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Might not respond to the prompt • Central idea is unclear or missing • Hard to understand/confusing • Repetition of words or ideas • Unclear structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Might weakly address the prompt • Not enough details • Confusing or leaves the reader with a lot of questions (vague) • Details & examples do not add to the central idea • Thin development (or none) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Word choice is too vague, confusing or limited • Uncontrolled sentences • Sentences are awkward and difficult to understand • Many errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar make it difficult to read aloud

What about a grade?
(This is a possible way to assign a grade to the writing).

- 4** = 100
- 4 -** = 90
- 3+** = 88
- 3** = 85
- 3 -** = 80
- 2+** = 78
- 2** = 75
- 2 -** = 70
- 1+** = 68
- 1** = 65