

## Rubric for Expository Writing

### Ideas

- 6 The topic, focus, and details make the essay truly memorable.
- 5 The essay is informative with a clear focus and specific details.
- 4 The essay is informative with a clear focus. More specific details are needed.
- 3 The focus of the essay needs to be clearer, and more specific details are needed.
- 2 The topic needs to be narrowed or expanded. Many more specific details are needed.
- 1 A new topic needs to be selected.

### Organization

- 6 The organization makes the essay informative and easy to read.
- 5 The beginning interests the reader. The middle supports the focus. The ending works well. Transitions are used.
- 4 The essay is divided into a beginning, a middle, and an ending. Some transitions are used.
- 3 The beginning or ending is weak. The middle needs a paragraph for each main point. More transitions are needed.
- 2 The beginning, middle, and ending all run together. Paragraphs and transitions are needed.
- 1 The essay should be reorganized.

### Voice

- 6 The writer's voice sounds confident, knowledgeable, and enthusiastic.
- 5 The writer's voice sounds informative and confident. It fits the audience.
- 4 The writer's voice sounds well-informed most of the time and fits the audience.
- 3 The writer sometimes sounds unsure, and the voice needs to fit the audience better.
- 2 The writer sounds unsure. The voice needs to fit the audience.
- 1 The writer needs to learn about voice.

### Word Choice

- 6 The word choice makes the essay very clear, informative, and fun to read.
- 5 Specific nouns and action verbs make the essay clear and informative.
- 4 Some nouns and verbs could be more specific.

- 3 Too many general words are used. Specific nouns and verbs are needed.
- 2 General or missing words make this essay hard to understand.
- 1 The writer needs help finding specific words.

**Sentence Fluency**

- 6 The sentences flow smoothly, and people will enjoy reading them.
- 5 The sentences read smoothly. There are no short, choppy sentences.
- 4 Most of the sentences read smoothly, but some are short and choppy.
- 3 Many short, choppy sentences need to be rewritten to make the essay read smoothly.
- 2 Many sentences are choppy or incomplete and need to be rewritten.
- 1 Most sentences need to be rewritten.

**Conventions**

- 6 The essay is error free.
- 5 The essay has a few minor errors in punctuation, spelling, or grammar.
- 4 The essay has several errors in punctuation, spelling, or grammar.
- 3 Some errors confuse the reader.
- 2 Many errors make the essay confusing and hard to read.
- 1 Help is needed to make corrections.