Informative

Exceeds 4
- Meets all expectations set forth in Meets (3) Category
- Demonstrates a clear understanding of topic
- Contains graphics (tables, chart, graphs) and multimedia to aid comprehension
- Uses vivid and descriptive language that support genre
- Provides a list of sources (CCSS 8)

Meets 3
- Paper introduces a topic clearly, and provides a general observation and focus (CCSS 2a)
- Logically groups related information in paragraphs and sections, including headings (CCSS 2a)
- Contains illustrations, and/or multimedia, when useful to aiding comprehension (CCSS 2a)
- Develops the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic (CCSS 2b)
- Links ideas within categories of information using words, phrases, and clauses such as, in contrast, also, in addition, etc. (CCSS 2c)
- Uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform or explain the topic (CCSS 2d)
- Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented (CCSS 2d)
- Uses various sources to gather information about the topic (internet, media, speakers, books, newspapers, and magazines) (CCSS 9)
- Notes are organized, used, and information is shared in own words (CCSS 8)

Partially Meets 2
- Describes some aspects of topic, but lacks topic sentence
- Includes few facts & details for focus
- Draws information from one source
- Notes are not organized or not used

Does Not Meet 1
- Limited information on topic
- Includes little to no facts for focus
- No outside sources

Organization and Focus

Exceeds 4
- Paper is well-developed with smooth transitions and indentations
- Meets all expectations set forth in Meets (3) Category

Meets 3
- Includes well-developed supporting facts and details
- Uses transition words to move the reader from one detail to the next
- Clearly planned writing with graphic organizer, rough draft or notes
- Document is neat and legible

Partially Meets 2
- Includes simple supporting details that follow a logical order
- Rough draft, graphic organizer or notes are incomplete

Does Not Meet 1
- Disjointed ideas
- Organization not well planned
- No evidence of rough draft, graphic organizer or notes
Language Conventions

Exceeds  4  
- Meets all expectations set forth in Meets (3) Category
- Uses compound-complex sentences
- Uses verb tense to convey various times, sequences, states, and conditions (CCSS L 1c)
- Corrects inappropriate shifts in verb tense (CCSS L 1d)
- Use correlative conjunctions (e.g., either/or, neither/nor) (CCSS L 1e)
- Uses a comma to set off the words yes, no and thank you and to set off a tag question from the rest of the sentence (e.g., It’s true, isn’t it?) and to indicate direct address (e.g., Is that you, Steve?). (CCSS L 2c)
- Uses colons after the salutation in business letters, or to introduce a list, if applicable
- Uses semicolon to connect independent clauses

Meets  3  
- Uses a variation of simple, compound, and complex sentences
- Uses propositional phrases, appositives, dependent and independent clauses, and conjunctions to connect ideas correctly
- Uses verbs that are often misused (lie/lay, sit/set, rise/raise) correctly
- Uses commas in compound and complex sentences
- Uses commas for quotations, to separate an introductory element from the rest of the sentence (CCSS L 2b)
- Uses underlining, quotation marks, or italics to indicate titles of works when applicable (CCSS L 2d)
- Uses quotations marks around the exact words of a speaker and for quotations in a text
- Uses correct capitalization ((titles of literary works, holidays, product names, geographic names, dates, names of people, and the first word in quotations) when appropriate
- Spells grade-appropriate words correctly, consulting references as needed (CCSS L 2e)

Partially Meets  2  
- Use mostly simple or run-on sentences
- Verbs are misused or inappropriate verb tense
- Subject/verb agreement errors
- Commas are missing from compound sentences
- Quotations are inappropriately punctuated
- Incorrect capitalization
- Many misspelled words

Does Not Meet  1  
- Mostly incomplete sentences
- Punctuation missing
- Capitalization missing
- Mostly misspelled words

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Informative: _____  
Organization and Focus: _____  
Language Conventions: _____  
Total Score: _____