

Opinion Writing

|   | 4 points  | 3 points  | 2 points   | 1 point  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Use of source material                                    | Obviously used information from both sources  | Material from one source is evident   | XXXXXXXXXX   | Did not appear to use the sources                        |
| Organization  | Writing is <b><i>clearly</i></b> organized by introduction, body and explanation, and conclusion; every paragraph/section is distinct                 | Some structure is provided with an attempt at separate introduction, body, and conclusion                                       | There is an attempt at organization, but parts are hard to tell apart                      | The writing is not organized                             |
| Introduction  | Introduced topic in an interesting way;   | Topic is introduced   | There is an attempt to introduce a topic   | Topic is not introduced.                                 |
| Reasons (body paragraphs)                                 | Effectively develops the topic with multiple facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic | Develops the topic with some facts, definitions, and details.   | Attempts to develop a topic with too few details   | May be too brief to develop the topic                    |
| Choice of words or language (Linking of ideas)            | Effectively uses linking words and phrases to connect ideas within and across categories of information   | Uses some linking words to connect ideas within and across categories of information, but relationships may not always be clear | Uses few linking words to connect ideas, but not all ideas are well connected to the topic | May not use any linking words to connect ideas           |
| Choice of words or language (use of topic specific words) | Uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to explain the topic   | Uses some precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to explain the topic  | Uses limited language and vocabulary that do not clearly explain the topic                 | Uses vague, ambiguous, or repetitive language            |
| Conclusion  | Provides a creative, strong concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented                                       | Provides a concluding statement or section  | Provides a weak concluding statement or section  | Provides a minimal or no concluding statement or section |

Revised 2/20

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|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| Complexity of sentences | Writer used many types of sentences and varied the pattern of the sentences            | Writer attempted to vary sentences; sometimes with success.                  | Story is mostly composed of simple sentences that follow the same pattern. |
| Punctuation             | Very few mistakes in punctuation   | Few mistakes in basic punctuation.   | Several mistakes in punctuation.   |
| Grammar                 | Correct grammar was used throughout, including subject/verb agreement.                 | Correct grammar was used most of the time, including subject/verb agreement. | Correct grammar was rarely used  |
| Spelling                | Writer spelled most words correctly; misspellings did not interfere with understanding | Some spelling mistakes interfered with understanding                         | Many words were misspelled   |

*Revised 2/20*