

	6 Exemplary	5 Strong	4 Proficient	3 Developing	2 Emerging	1 Beginning
Ideas & Content main theme supporting details	Exceptionally clear, focused, engaging with relevant, strong detail	Clear, focused, interesting ideas with appropriate details	Evident main idea with some support which may be general	Main idea may be cloudy because supporting detail is too general or even off-topic	Purpose and main idea may be unclear and cluttered by irrelevant detail	Lacks central idea; development minimal or non-existent
Organization Structure introduction conclusion	Effectively organized in logical and creative manner. Creative and engaging intro and conclusion	Strong order and structure. Inviting intro and satisfying conclusion.	Organization is appropriate but conventional. Attempt at introduction and conclusion	Attempt at organization; may be a "list" of events. Beginning and ending not developed	Lack of structure; disorganized and hard to follow Missing or weak conclusion	Lack of coherence, confusing. No identifiable intro or conclusion.
Voice personality sense of audience	Expressive, engaging, sincere. Strong sense of audience Shows emotion, humor, honesty, suspense for life.	Appropriate to audience and purpose. Writers behind words comes through	Evident commitment to topic. Inconsistent or dull personality.	Voice may be inappropriate or non-existent. Writing may seem mechanical.	Writing tends to be flat or stiff. Little or no hint of writer behind words.	Writing is lifeless. No hint of writer.
Word Choice precision effectiveness imagery	Precise, carefully chosen. Strong, fresh, vivid images.	Descriptive broad range of words. Word choice energizes writing	Language is functional and appropriated. Descriptions may be overdone at times.	Words may be correct but mundane. No attempt at deliberate choice.	Monotonous often repetitious, sometimes inappropriate	Limited range of words. Some vocabulary misused.
Sentence Fluency rhythm, flow variety	High degree of craftsmanship. Effective variation of sentence patterns.	Easy flow and rhythm. Good variety in length and structure.	Generally in control. Lack variety in length and structure.	Some awkward constructions. Many similar patterns and beginnings.	Often choppy. Monotonous sentence patterns. Frequent run-on sentences	Difficult to follow or read aloud. Disjointed, confusing and rambling.
Conventions spelling, caps, punctuation, grammar	Exceptionally strong control of standard writing conventions.	Strong control of conventions; errors are few and minor.	Control of most writing conventions; occasional errors with high risks.	Limited control of conventions; frequent errors do not interfere with understanding.	Frequent significant errors may impede readability.	Numerous errors distract the reader and make the piece difficult to read.