

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 <i>clearly</i> 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

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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

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