

Informational Rubric

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Organization	Introduction, body, conclusion Distinct main ideas	Introduction, body, conclusion Distinct main ideas	Shows a beginning, middle, and end, but the body is in random order	Shows no organizational strategy and is hard to follow
	Powerful supporting details	A number of supporting details	Vague or overlapping main ideas Lack of focus	No clear focus due to
	Clear focus Strong connection and linking words	Clear focus Some connections and linking words	No apparent connections and linking words	the lack of main ideas and related supporting details
Introduction	Compelling lead Topic clearly stated with main ideas skillfully identified	Adequate lead Topic sentence names topic and adequately states main ideas	Lacks a compelling lead Attempts to name topic, but main ideas are vague, unclear, and/or unstated	Lacks a clear introduction Very brief
Main Idea	Clearly stated broad yet distinct main ideas Interesting word choice and sentence variety	Clearly stated broad yet distinct main ideas Some evidence of interesting word choice and sentence variety	Overly general main ideas Main ideas might be stated in a redundant fashion	Main ideas not included Reader is left wondering what the piece is about
Supporting Details	Specific, powerful details clearly focused on the topic Details are fully elaborated using the productive questions	A mix of general and specific details focused on the topic Details are elaborated using the productive questions	Some general details focused on the topic Details are stated as facts, but not developed with the productive questions	Few general details that may or may not be linked to the topic
Conclusion	Conclusion paragraph has creatively restated main ideas using a variety of techniques	Conclusion paragraph restates main ideas	Ends abruptly with minimal attempt to restate the main ideas	Lacks a conclusion or provides a vague concluding sentence
Vocabulary, fluency, mechanics	Precise and appropriate vocabulary Thorough understanding of mechanics with few errors in spelling, usage, punctuation, or capitalization Fluent response	Adequate vocabulary Average understanding of mechanics with adequate spelling, punctuation, capitalization, or usage Errors do not interfere with the readability	Simplistic and general vocabulary Incomplete understanding of mechanics with frequent errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization, or usage Errors affect the readability	Vague and inappropriate vocabulary Frequent errors in spelling, punctuation, capitalization, or usage Difficult to read or understand