

# 4th/5th Grade Writing Rubric

Traits	Advanced	Proficient	Partially Proficient	Unsatisfactory
Content/Organization (Focus, development, organization)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Meets all of the requirements from proficient plus at least one of the following</u></li> <li>• <u>Introduction:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Begin with a question that cannot be answered "yes" or "no"</li> <li>◦ Begins with a character talking or interesting quote</li> <li>◦ Begins with a strong opinion</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Unusual transition for at least one new idea</u></li> <li>• <u>Specific elaborate details that move beyond the obvious</u></li> <li>◦ Add a set of 3 descriptive words setting them off with commas or dashes</li> <li>◦ Add a number word</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meets all of the prompts requirements</li> <li>• Clearly focuses on topic throughout the paper</li> <li>• Provides main idea with specific, elaborate details</li> <li>• Demonstrates strong organization</li> <li>◦ Inviting introduction/lead</li> <li>◦ Logical organization of ideas</li> <li>◦ Powerhouse conclusion</li> <li>◦ Uses initial and embedded transitions naturally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meets some of the prompts requirements</li> <li>• Topic is partially focused</li> <li>• Provides main idea with supporting details</li> <li>• Demonstrates organization                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Introduction/lead present</li> <li>◦ Ideas are organized</li> <li>◦ Conclusion Present</li> <li>◦ Uses initial transitions effectively</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not write to prompt</li> <li>• Off topic</li> <li>• Missing main idea and supporting details</li> <li>• Organization is absent                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Missing introduction/lead</li> <li>◦ No attempt to establish order</li> <li>◦ No conclusion</li> <li>◦ No transitions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Style/Fluency (voice, word choice, vocabulary, sentence structure)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Uses accurate, precise, original vocabulary but eliminates unnecessary words:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Take out words that slow down writing: very, lots of, like, a lot</li> <li>◦ Take out phrases that slow down writing: I am going to tell you about...; "So now you know..."; "...so that's why..."</li> <li>◦ Eliminate long descriptions. Find a few important things and really focus on those</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Uses Figurative Language:</u> Look for ONE place in the writing to add: idioms, alliteration, simile, metaphor, personification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully engages reader/elicits emotions</li> <li>• Uses accurate, original, precise word choice for audience and purpose</li> <li>• Uses vivid verbs effectively</li> <li>• Use of figurative language enriches the writing</li> <li>• Employs a wide variety of sentence structures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempts to engage reader/elicits emotions</li> <li>• Uses accurate and precise word choice for audience and purpose</li> <li>• Uses vivid verbs</li> <li>• Use of figurative language supports the meaning</li> <li>• Sentence structures have little variety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No attempt to engage reader</li> <li>• Poor word choice with no attention to audience and purpose</li> <li>• Uses verbs repetitively</li> <li>• No figurative language</li> <li>• Sentence structures impair readability</li> </ul>
Language Usage (grammar, mechanics, spelling)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Mastered the following:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Subject/verb agreement</li> <li>◦ Modifiers (adjectives, adverbs)</li> <li>◦ Sophisticated punctuation :Semi-colon (:),Colon (:), Ellipses (...), Dashes (-)</li> <li>◦ Age appropriate spelling doesn't effect readability</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Error-Free:</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mastered the following:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Subject/verb agreement</li> <li>◦ Modifiers (adjectives, adverbs)</li> <li>◦ Punctuation : endings, commas, apostrophes, quotation marks, semi-colon)</li> <li>◦ Age appropriate spelling doesn't effect readability</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistent use on the following:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Subject/verb agreement</li> <li>◦ Modifiers (adjectives, adverbs)</li> <li>◦ Punctuation : endings, commas, apostrophes, quotation marks, semi-colon)</li> <li>◦ Age appropriate spelling doesn't effect readability</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No consistency in the following:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Subject/verb agreement</li> <li>◦ Modifiers (adjectives, adverbs)</li> <li>◦ Punctuation : endings, commas, apostrophes, quotation marks, semi-colon)</li> <li>◦ Age appropriate spelling doesn't effect readability</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Planning	Evidence of Planning		No Evidence of Planning	
Legibility	Extremely Legible	Legible	Illegible	