Mississippi 7th Grade Writing Rubric

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Criteria	1	2	3	4
Focus	attempts to address the	addresses the specific writing	addresses the specific writing	addresses the specific writing
	writing prompt; may digress	prompt; minimally develops	prompt; partially develops	prompt; fully develops the
	from topic	the topic	the topic	topic
Audience/Purpose	shows no regard for audience	shows little regard for	shows a sense of audience	shows a sense of audience
	and/or purpose	audience and/or purpose	and purpose	and purpose
Point of View	does not maintain a	may not maintain a consistent	maintains a consistent point	maintains a consistent point
	consistent point of view	point of view	of view	of view
Main Idea	does not contain a main idea	contains a vaguely implied	contains a stated or implied	contains a clearly stated main
	(thesis) or contains only an	main idea (thesis)	main idea (thesis)	idea (thesis)
	implied focus on the topic			
Idea Development	contains vague or no details	addresses the main idea with	has a main idea developed by	has a main idea developed by
	that support the topic	minimal supporting details	supporting details that are not	supporting details that are
			consistently well-elaborated	well-elaborated
Sequencing	may lack a beginning,	has a beginning, middle, and	has a clear beginning,	has a clear beginning,
	middle, and/or end	end	middle, and end	middle, and end
Organization	lacks organization;	exhibits some evidence of	exhibits some logical order;	exhibits logical order and
	presentation is rambling and	organization but does not	sequences most steps or ideas	appropriate sequencing of
	repetitive	sequence steps consistently	with transitions	steps or ideas with adequate
		and/or does not use		transitions
		transitions		
Language	contains vague and imprecise	contains some appropriate	contains appropriate	contains precise and vivid
	language (below grade-level	language; word choice is	language, but word choice	language (grade-level
	vocabulary)	repetitive (grade-level	may be repetitive (grade-level	vocabulary or above)
		vocabulary)	vocabulary)	
Paragraphing	may not exhibit indented (or	may not exhibit indented (or	contains a minimum of three	contains a minimum of three
	clearly delineated)	clearly delineated)	indented (or clearly	indented (or clearly
	paragraphing	paragraphing	delineated) paragraphs	delineated) paragraphs
Grammar/Usage	exhibits serious errors that	may contain frequent errors	may contain occasional	contains no errors that detract
	may severely impede	that may impede	errors that may detract from	from the overall delivery
	communication	communication (Grammar/	the delivery (Grammar/usage	(Grammar/usage includes
	(Grammar/usage includes	usage includes subject-verb	includes subject-verb	subject-verb agreement, verb
			increase subject term	
	subject-verb agreement, verb	agreement, verb tense,	agreement, verb tense,	tense, pronoun case and
	subject-verb agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and			tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and
		agreement, verb tense,	agreement, verb tense,	
	tense, pronoun case and	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference,	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference,	reference, complete and
Mechanics	tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied	reference, complete and
Mechanics	tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences)	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences)	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences)	reference, complete and varied sentences)
Mechanics	tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) contains repeated errors that may severely impede communication (Mechanics	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain frequent errors that may impede communication (Mechanics	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain some errors that	reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain a few errors, but
Mechanics	tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) contains repeated errors that may severely impede communication (Mechanics	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain frequent errors that may impede	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain some errors that may detract somewhat from	reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain a few errors, but they do not detract from
Mechanics	tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) contains repeated errors that may severely impede	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain frequent errors that may impede communication (Mechanics	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain some errors that may detract somewhat from delivery (Mechanics include	reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain a few errors, but they do not detract from overall delivery (Mechanics
Mechanics	tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) contains repeated errors that may severely impede communication (Mechanics include underlining, quotation	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain frequent errors that may impede communication (Mechanics include underlining, quotation	agreement, verb tense, pronoun case and reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain some errors that may detract somewhat from delivery (Mechanics include underlining, quotation marks,	reference, complete and varied sentences) may contain a few errors, but they do not detract from overall delivery (Mechanics include underlining, quotation