

4th/5th Grade Writing Rubric

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