

Utah Compose Informational/Explanatory Student Rubric

| Writing Analysis | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|
| Development of Ideas | <p>This essay is clear, controlled and focused, and is appropriate for the task, purpose, and audience.</p> <p>Your essay has balance and exhibits good control of connections between ideas.</p> <p>You have expressed your ideas in a convincing manner by providing ample support.</p> <p>Your essay holds the reader's attention through details, facts, examples, anecdotes, and description that enrich your main idea.</p> <p>You have used appropriate literary strategies or techniques to develop your essay.</p> <p>You have an introduction and concluding statement or section that are effectively connected to the rest of the essay.</p> <p>An effective introduction and conclusion leave the reader with a sense of completeness.</p> | <p>You have used enough support to develop your ideas.</p> <p>You have used specific reasons, facts, examples, details, and/or description to make your essay or story clear.</p> <p>Your writing is clear and focused.</p> <p>Your essay or story moves fairly smoothly from introduction to conclusion.</p> <p>You have an introduction and concluding statement or section that are clearly connected to the rest of the essay or narrative.</p> <p>Your writing has balance and moves along evenly.</p> | <p>Have you used specific details to support your essay?</p> <p>Have you used enough supporting reasons, facts, examples, details, and/or descriptions for your explanation?</p> <p>Did you keep your task, purpose and audience in mind?</p> <p>Have you used appropriate literary strategies or techniques to develop your essay?</p> <p>Does your essay have a clear conclusion?</p> <p>Are your ideas thoughtful and interesting?</p> <p>Do you have an introduction and concluding statement or section that are clearly connected to the rest of the essay?</p> <p>Are your linking words and phrases clear and helpful in connecting your ideas?</p> <p>Is your essay appropriate for its task, purpose and audience?</p> | <p>Have you made your main idea clear?</p> <p>Have you done more than just list or repeat the details in your essay?</p> <p>Are your reasons, examples, details and/or descriptions clear and enough to fully develop your ideas?</p> <p>Does your essay have sufficient information to explain your position?</p> <p>Does your essay have a conclusion?</p> <p>Have you done more than just list or repeat the details in your essay?</p> <p>Do you have an introduction and concluding statement or section that are connected to the rest of the essay?</p> <p>Can the reader easily follow what you are saying?</p> | <p>Have you written enough to achieve a higher score?</p> <p>Have you expressed your main idea clearly?</p> <p>Did the details you included fit with the subject you were talking about?</p> <p>Have you added details to make your essay better?</p> <p>Do you have an introduction and concluding statement or section?</p> <p>Have you used any literary strategies or techniques to develop your essay?</p> |
| Organization | <p>Your essay is appropriate for its task, purpose and audience.</p> <p>The transitions or connections between your ideas are seamless and smooth.</p> <p>Your essay is carefully organized with well-placed details from beginning to end.</p> <p>The writing is well balanced and moves along smoothly.</p> <p>The organization of this essay enhances and highlights the main idea.</p> | <p>You have a clear introduction and conclusion that connect to the main idea.</p> <p>The transitions between your ideas are appropriate and work well.</p> <p>The details are generally well placed and relevant to the main idea.</p> <p>The transitions between ideas are appropriate and work well.</p> <p>Your introduction and conclusion are functional and connected to the main idea.</p> | <p>Have you worked on making the transitions or connections between your ideas better?</p> <p>Does the placement and relevance of your details cause any confusion?</p> <p>Does your essay progress logically from one idea to the next?</p> <p>Have you written a clear introduction and conclusion to your essay?</p> | <p>Can the reader easily follow what you are saying?</p> <p>Do all your paragraphs connect to the central idea?</p> <p>Is your information sorted into paragraphs that each talk about just one thing?</p> <p>Have you used linking words to connect your ideas?</p> | <p>Did you create a plan for your essay before you started writing?</p> <p>Have you written enough that there is some organization evident?</p> <p>Are your ideas clear and linked together with transitions?</p> <p>Are there any gaps in information that might confuse the reader?</p> <p>Have you been careful not to ramble and jump from one idea to another?</p> |
| Style | <p>Your writing fits the topic, purpose, and readers.</p> <p>Your use of language is natural and brings the topic to life.</p> <p>Your individual style is felt throughout the essay or story.</p> <p>Your writing makes the reader want to read more.</p> | <p>Your writing fits the task, purpose, and readers.</p> <p>Your writing makes a connection with the reader.</p> <p>You seem to be involved in the topic.</p> <p>Your writing sounds like you</p> | <p>Does your writing fit the task, purpose, and readers?</p> <p>Are your ideas clear and easy to follow?</p> <p>Have you used your own ideas and made your essay interesting?</p> <p>Do you have enough details?</p> | <p>Have you explained your ideas clearly?</p> <p>Have you written your essay with your task, purpose, and readers in mind?</p> <p>Does your writing sound like you?</p> | <p>Have you written enough?</p> <p>Have you thought carefully about your reason for writing about this topic?</p> <p>Is your topic clear?</p> |

| Writing Analysis | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Word Choice | <p>The words convey the intended message in an interesting and precise way.</p> <p>The words are specific and accurate. Your vocabulary is vivid, natural and not overdone.</p> <p>Excellent word choice gives this essay power.</p> | <p>Are there places where, though correct, the words lack excitement?</p> <p>Though your vocabulary is natural, are there places where it might be overdone?</p> <p>The writing in this essay is clear and easy to interpret, but it may not always be succinct.</p> <p>The word choice in this essay conveys the message in a realistic and reasonable way.</p> | <p>Does the language in your essay, though generally correct, lack precision?</p> <p>Does your paper have clichés, redundancies or overused phrases?</p> <p>Is there any colorful or poetic language used effectively to engage the reader?</p> <p>Are there places where the essay seems to be generic or ordinary?</p> | <p>Do the words you have used lack specificity?</p> <p>Are the words in your essay general or dull?</p> <p>Do you repeat the same general phrases over and over?</p> | <p>Have you chosen the correct words to express your ideas and to make the meaning of each sentence clear?</p> <p>Are you sure that the verbs, nouns and adjectives you used were the correct ones?</p> <p>Do you repeat the same words or phrases over and over?</p> <p>Are the words you have chosen specific and grade-appropriate?</p> |
| Sentence Structure | <p>The writing in this essay is very natural and fluent.</p> <p>The amount of sentence variety present in this essay makes the text interesting.</p> <p>The writing is concise and effective in conveying your meaning.</p> | <p>Generally, the sentences in this essay are well crafted.</p> <p>The writing in the essay moves along at a fairly consistent pace.</p> <p>You show control of both simple and complex syntax.</p> <p>This essay contains a variety of sentence structures and lengths.</p> | <p>Are there errors in the construction of more complex sentences?</p> <p>Is there a pattern of the same type of sentence throughout the essay?</p> <p>Are there places where awkward sentences force the reader to slow down?</p> <p>Do the sentences flow smoothly one after the other or are they stilted?</p> | <p>Are all of your sentences complete?</p> <p>Have you used correct grammar throughout your essay or story?</p> <p>Have you used different kinds of sentences?</p> <p>Do all of your sentences sound the same?</p> | <p>Are the sentences you have written correct ones, or were there run-ons, fragments, and/or comma splices?</p> <p>Have you used correct grammar throughout your essay?</p> <p>Are your sentences choppy or awkward?</p> <p>Do any of your sentences cause confusion?</p> |
| Conventions | <p>You have demonstrated a good grasp of standard writing conventions.</p> <p>This essay is sufficiently long and complex and shows command of a wide range of conventions.</p> <p>Errors in spelling, grammar and punctuation are few, if any, and they do not interrupt the flow of reading.</p> | <p>Although there may be some errors, you have demonstrated an overall grasp of standard writing conventions.</p> <p>The spelling of common words is correct but may not be consistent for the more difficult ones.</p> <p>This essay is fairly long but the writing could show more evidence of complexity.</p> | <p>Have you made some spelling, punctuation and/or capitalization errors that might cause some confusion for the reader?</p> <p>Have you written enough to show that you have control of spelling, punctuation and/or capitalization?</p> <p>Do you have consistent control over the paragraphing in your essay?</p> | <p>Are there mistakes in your essay or story that make it hard to understand?</p> <p>Have you made sure that your spelling, punctuation and capitalization are correct?</p> <p>Have you used paragraphs correctly?</p> | <p>Do the number of errors seriously interfere with communication and make it difficult for the reader to understand what you are trying to say?</p> <p>Have you made sure that your spelling, punctuation and capitalization are correct?</p> <p>Have you used paragraphs correctly?</p> |