

# Informational Writing Rubric

## 8th Grade English Language Arts

Rubric Scoring Key	Fully meets (4) All criteria present in the writing	Mostly meets (3) Most criteria present, with some misunderstandings	Partially meets (2) Criteria attempted, but major misunderstandings	Does not meet yet (1) Criteria are not attempted or not enough evidence to rate
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Structure	Rubric Score	Notes
<b>Introduction</b> Establishes the main topic; previews the ideas that will be developed throughout the piece; may provide additional relevant context to frame the information	4 3 2 1	
<b>Organization</b> Organizes complex ideas into broader categories; supports deeper understanding of the topic; creates cohesion through varied and purposeful transitional language	4 3 2 1	
<b>Conclusion</b> Summarizes, reinforces, and/or reflects on the topic logically; connects directly to the major ideas presented; emphasizes the significance of the information	4 3 2 1	

Development	Rubric Score	Notes
<b>Details</b> Incorporates relevant and accurate information such as facts, definitions, quotations, and examples; explains ideas thoroughly; deepens the reader's understanding of the topic	4 3 2 1	
<b>Text Features</b> Uses formatting, graphics, or multimedia strategically; selects features that enhance comprehension; integrates features purposefully to support the information	4 3 2 1	

Language	Rubric Score	Notes
<p><b>Style</b> Maintains a formal, objective, and academic tone; uses precise, varied, and domain-specific vocabulary; strengthens clarity and accuracy of information</p>	4 3 2 1	
<p><b>Grammar</b> Demonstrates consistent command of grade-level grammar and usage, including correct application of verb voice and mood</p>	4 3 2 1	
<p><b>Conventions</b> Uses correct capitalization, spelling, and punctuation conventions, including commas, dashes, or ellipses to signal a pause or break</p>	4 3 2 1	