

Opinion Writing Rubric

4th 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
Organizational Structure Ideas are grouped logically; Sections are ordered strategically; Includes introduction and conclusion sections; Uses third-person to state an opinion consistently	4 3 2 1	
Introduction Clearly states a topic and opinion based on facts and details; Introduction <u>may</u> use a lead that captures the reader's interest, such as posing a question or presenting interesting facts or details	4 3 2 1	
Conclusion Includes a concluding sentence or section that <u>may</u> ask a question or make a suggestion; Concluding sentence/section <u>may</u> begin with a transition word or phrase unique to conclusions (e.g. <i>In conclusion</i> , <i>finally</i>)	4 3 2 1	

Development	Rubric Score	Notes
Reasons Includes three to four facts and details to support opinion; Effectively chooses compelling reasons and orders most compelling reasons first	4 3 2 1	
Linking Words and Phrases Effectively and consistently uses linking words or phrases; Effectively and consistently uses linking words or phrases to connect opinion and reasons, or paragraphs	4 3 2 1	

Language	Rubric Score	Notes
Grammar Includes complete simple, compound, and complex sentences Uses nouns correctly, including relative pronouns Uses verbs correctly, including relative adverbs, the progressive form, and modal auxiliaries Uses adjectives correctly, including ordering adjectives within sentences according to conventional patterns Forms and uses prepositional phrases correctly	4 3 2 1	
Conventions Uses correct capitalization conventions Uses correct punctuation conventions, including commas and quotation marks to mark direct speech and quotations from a text, commas before a coordinating conjunction in a compound sentence Correctly uses frequently confused words, such as "to" and "too," and "there," "their," and they're"	4 3 2 1	

