4th Grade Writing Assessment Rubric

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| Area | Descriptors | 4Exceeding | 3Proficient | 2Developing | 1Emerging | Area Total |
| Focus/Ideas | Writing 2:I can write an informational/explanatory text about a topic and provide facts and ideas to support the topic. | All proficient **plus** one of the following:* Selectively and purposefully uses information to make the topic understandable and interesting
* All of the facts used are relevant to the main idea
 | * Writing addresses the prompt given and stays on topic
* Main idea is clearly stated
* Main idea supported by facts from the text provided
* Writing is in the student’s own words
 | Writing contains 3 characteristics listed for proficient. | Writing contains 1-2 characteristics listed for proficient.  |  |
| Organization | Writing includes an introduction that provides a general observation and focus of my topic with related information grouped together. | All proficient **plus** one of the following:* Transitions flow smoothly in guiding the reader
* Text features enhance understanding and give the reader more insight about the topic
 | * Introduction provides the focus of the topic
* At least one text feature is included to support the topic
* Sequence of events is in a logical order
* Conclusion statement is related to the information presented
 | Writing contains 3 characteristics listed for proficient. | Writing contains 1-2 characteristics listed for proficient.  |  |
| Writing includes common features of informational text (headings, labels, etc.) and illustrations to support the topic as needed. |
| Writing includes a relevant concluding statement or section to provide closure. |
| Word Choice | Writing includes linking words, phrases, and clauses to connect information clearly for my readers. | All proficient **plus** one of the following:* Sophisticated use of topic-specific vocabulary and transitions
* Words chosen grab the reader’s attention often
 | * Linking words are used to transition ideas
* Words are specific and accurate
* Topic-specific vocabulary is included
* Topic-specific vocabulary is used appropriately in context
 | Writing contains 3 characteristics listed for proficient. | Writing contains 1-2 characteristics listed for proficient.  |  |
| Writing includes precise language and vocabulary to support the information about my topic.  |
| Sentence Fluency | Language 1.f:Writing includes complete sentences, recognizing and correcting inappropriate fragments and run-ons. | All proficient **plus** one of the following:* Longer sentences are used to elaborate
* Shorter sentences are used to create emphasis
* Sentences vary in structure
 | * Sentence beginnings are not all alike
* Varying sentence lengths
* Writing flows smoothly when read the first time
* Compound sentences are used
 | Writing contains 3 characteristics listed for proficient. | Writing contains 1-2 characteristics listed for proficient.  |  |
| Conventions | Language 1 & 2:Student demonstrates command of the conventions of standard English grammar, spelling, capitalization and punctuation usage when writing. | There are no basic grammar, spelling, capitalization, or punctuation errors.If mistakes are made, they occur when students are experimenting with an advanced technique or word choice. | There are a few basic grammar, spelling, capitalization, or punctuation errors; however the message is still clearly communicated. | There are some grammar, spelling, capitalization, or punctuation errors that make it difficult to understand the message. | There are many grammar, spelling, capitalization, or punctuation errors and the read is unable to determine a message. |  |
| Total: |  |