

Writing Rubric for Demonstrating Mastery in Grades 6-8

Modified Version of WVDE Writing Rubric

Purpose, Focus, and Organization 40%		Evidence and Elaboration 40%	Conventions of Standard English 20%
Argumentative & Informative/Explanatory Responses	<p>Strongly state and support the claim (arg) or main idea (info) with relevant information</p> <p>Clearly address opposing claims (arg)</p> <p>Skillfully connect ideas using transition words and phrases</p> <p>Effectively organize information in logical order from beginning to end, with clear conclusion</p> <p>Fully address and focus on the purpose, audience, and task</p> <p>Consistently maintain school- appropriate style, using persuasive techniques (arg) or objective tone (info)</p>	<p>Smoothly integrate thorough, convincing, and credible support (arg) or main idea (info), using all sources</p> <p>Effectively use elaboration (including but not limited to definitions, quotations, and examples)</p> <p>Clearly express ideas, using precise language, to demonstrate understanding of the topic and text</p> <p>Skillfully paraphrase or use short quotations from sources, providing in-text citations to credit original sources (MLA author or title tags)</p> <p>Intentionally include academic and topic-specific vocabulary appropriate for the audience and purpose</p> <p>Strategically vary sentence structure to engage the reader and demonstrate understanding of grammar</p>	<p>Consistently demonstrate a command of basic rules (conventions)</p> <p>Clearly indicate efforts to revise (some minor errors in usage may appear, but no patterns of errors)</p> <p>Effectively use punctuation, capitalization, and complete sentence formation</p> <p>Skillfully use universal writing tools (built-in dictionary, thesaurus, and spell check) for correct spelling and word usage</p>
Fictional & Personal Narrative Responses	<p>Fully develop an effective plot (real or imagined, based on prompt)</p> <p>Effectively establish setting, narrator/characters, and point of view</p> <p>Skillfully connect ideas using transition words and phrases</p> <p>Effectively organize events in logical sequence from beginning to end, with a clear conclusion</p> <p>Fully address and focus on the purpose, audience, and task</p> <p>Strategically vary style and word choice, while maintaining school-appropriate tone and language</p>	<p>Clearly develop setting, plot, experiences, characters, and events by including relevant details, dialogue, and descriptions</p> <p>Smoothly integrate narrative techniques that advance the story or illustrate the experience</p> <p>Intentionally use sensory, concrete, and figurative language that clearly advances the purpose</p> <p>Effectively enhance narration through appropriate style and voice</p> <p>Strategically vary sentence structure to engage the reader and demonstrate understanding of grammar</p>	<p>Consistently demonstrate a command of basic rules (conventions)</p> <p>Clearly indicate efforts to revise (some minor errors in usage may appear, but no patterns of errors)</p> <p>Effectively use punctuation, capitalization, and complete sentence formation</p> <p>Skillfully use universal writing tools (built-in dictionary, thesaurus, and spell check) for correct spelling and word usage</p>
Purpose, Focus, and Organization 40%		Development and Elaboration 40%	Conventions of Standard English 20%

