

Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects

Informational/Explanatory Rubric – Grades 6-8

Tennessee Department of Education

Revised: April 2013

Score	Development	Focus & Organization	Language
4	<p>In response to the task and the stimuli, the writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> utilizes well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient evidence¹ from the stimuli to insightfully develop the topic. thoroughly and accurately explains and elaborates on the evidence provided, demonstrating a clear understanding of the topic and the stimuli. 	<p>In response to the task and the stimuli, the writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> contains a logical and relevant introduction. utilizes effective organizational strategies to create a unified whole and to aid in comprehension. effectively clarifies relationships among ideas and concepts to create cohesion. contains a logical and relevant concluding statement or section. 	<p>The writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> illustrates consistent and sophisticated command of precise language and domain-specific vocabulary appropriate to the task. utilizes sophisticated and varied transitional words and phrases. effectively establishes and maintains a formal style and an objective tone.
3	<p>In response to the task and the stimuli, the writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> utilizes relevant and sufficient evidence¹ from the stimuli to adequately develop the topic. adequately and accurately explains and elaborates on the evidence provided, demonstrating a sufficient understanding of the topic and the stimuli. 	<p>In response to the task and the stimuli, the writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> contains a relevant introduction. utilizes adequate organizational strategies to create a mostly unified whole and to aid in comprehension. clarifies most relationships among ideas and concepts, but there may be some gaps in cohesion. contains a relevant concluding statement or section. 	<p>The writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> illustrates consistent command of precise language and domain-specific vocabulary appropriate to the task. utilizes appropriate and varied transitional words and phrases. establishes and maintains a formal style and an objective tone.
2	<p>In response to the task and the stimuli, the writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> utilizes mostly relevant but insufficient evidence¹ from the stimuli to partially develop the topic. Some evidence may be inaccurate or repetitive. explains some of the evidence provided, demonstrating only a partial understanding of the topic and the stimuli. There may be some level of inaccuracy in the explanation. 	<p>In response to the task and the stimuli, the writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> contains a limited introduction. demonstrates an attempt to use organizational strategies to create some unification, but ideas may be hard to follow at times. clarifies some relationships among ideas and concepts, but there are lapses in focus. contains a limited concluding statement or section. 	<p>The writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> illustrates inconsistent command of precise language and domain-specific vocabulary. utilizes basic or repetitive transitional words and phrases. establishes but inconsistently maintains a formal style and an objective tone.
1	<p>In response to the task and the stimuli, the writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> utilizes mostly irrelevant or no evidence¹ from the stimuli, or mostly/only personal knowledge, to inadequately develop the topic. Evidence is inaccurate or repetitive. inadequately or inaccurately explains the evidence provided, demonstrating little understanding of the topic and the stimuli. 	<p>In response to the task and the stimuli, the writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> contains no or an irrelevant introduction. demonstrates an unclear organizational structure; ideas are hard to follow most of the time. fails to clarify relationships among ideas and concepts; concepts are unclear and/or there is a lack of focus. contains no or an irrelevant concluding statement or section. 	<p>The writing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> illustrates little to no use of precise language and domain-specific vocabulary. utilizes no or few transitional words and phrases. does not establish or maintain a formal style and an objective tone.

¹ Evidence includes facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples as appropriate to the task and the stimuli.