

# Sample Writing Rubrics

## Basic Rubric:

	100% Expert Writer:	95% Master Writer:	85% Journeyman Writer:	75% Apprentice Writer:	65% Novice Writer:
Writing: Focus	The response establishes and maintains focus on the main idea the whole time.	The response is focused on the topic.	The response is generally focused, but may contain some extraneous information.	The response is generally focused, but contains some extraneous info or is sometimes confusing.	The response is related to the topic, but does not clearly establish a main idea and/or has little supporting detail.
Writing: Organization	Logical organizational pattern. Clearly organized ideas with creative transitions or connections. Has a sense of wholeness.	Evident organizational pattern with some lapses. Clearly organized ideas with transitions or connections. Has a sense of wholeness.	Evident organizational pattern with some lapses. Clearly organized ideas with some transitions or connections	Attempted organizational pattern. Simply organized ideas with limited transitions or connections	Lacks effective organization of ideas
Writing: Support	Concrete details; relevant information; elaboration; clear, precise word choice; sense of completeness	Concrete details, relevant information, limited elaboration, adequate word choice	Concrete details, mostly relevant information, elaboration and/or precise word choice	<i>Limited</i> details, relevant information, elaboration, and precise word choice	Lacks concrete details, relevant info and/or elaboration
Writing: Conventions/ Writing Mechanics	Varied sentence structure; Conventions are used correctly	Some varied sentence structure; evident knowledge of correct use of punctuation, capitalization, & spelling demonstrated	Some varied sentence structure; conventions of punctuation, capitalization, & spelling generally used	Mostly simple sentences; some knowledge of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling demonstrated	Frequent errors in the use of capitalization, punctuation, and usage; commonly used words are misspelled.

### Focus Rubric:

	100% Expert Writer:	95% Master Writer:	85% Journeyman Writer:	75% Apprentice Writer:	65% Novice Writer:
Focus: Establishes a Main Idea	The writing is about one clear and consistent topic or main idea. The reader can easily tell what the writing is about.	The writing is clearly about one topic or main idea that readers can understand.	The writing is about one topic or main idea.	The writing is about one topic or main idea, but it may not always be clear.	The response is related to the topic, but does not clearly establish one main idea.
Focus: Maintains focus on the Main Idea	The response maintains clear and consistent focus on the main idea the whole time (except where creatively appropriate).	The support is focused on the topic.	The support is generally focused, but may contain some extraneous information.	The support is generally focused, but contains some extraneous info or is sometimes confusing.	There is little relevant supporting information given about the main idea.

### Organization Rubric:

	100% Expert Writer:	95% Master Writer:	85% Journeyman Writer:	75% Apprentice Writer:	65% Novice Writer:
Organization: Clear Organizational Pattern	Clear and logical organizational pattern (includes a beginning, middle, and end). Has a sense of wholeness.	Evident organizational pattern with some lapses. Includes a beginning, middle, and end. Has a sense of wholeness.	Evident organizational pattern with some lapses.	Attempted organizational pattern.	Little evidence of an organizational pattern.
Organization: Connected Ideas and Transitional Devices	Clearly organized ideas with creative transitions or connections. Transitions help the reader understand how paragraphs work together, reference one another, and build to a larger point.	Clearly organized ideas with transitions or connections. Transitions help the reader understand how paragraphs work together, reference one another, and build to a larger point.	Clearly organized ideas with some transitions or connections.	Simply organized ideas with limited or basic transitions or connections	Lacks effective organization of ideas

## Support Rubric:

	100% Expert Writer:	95% Master Writer:	85% Journeyman Writer:	75% Apprentice Writer:	65% Novice Writer:
Support: Details	Plenty of concrete details to support the main idea and clarify the meaning. All of the details are specific, relevant and related to the main idea.	Enough details to support the main idea and clarify the meaning. Most of the details are specific, relevant and related to the main idea.	Sometimes specifics and details are used, but other times supporting ideas are limited or not developed.	Many times, details are limited, not specific, or not developed.	The supporting details are inadequate or illogical.
Support: Elaboration/ Descriptiveness	Use of the elaborations, descriptions, and figurative language are specific, plausible, and relevant. Descriptions help the reader construct mental images.	Most of the elaborations, descriptions, and figurative language are specific, plausible, and relevant. Descriptions help the reader construct mental images.	Use of some elaborations, descriptions, and figurative language that are specific, plausible, and relevant.	Elaborations and descriptions include meaningless figurative language, implausible statistics, or contrived use of creative writing strategies.	The response does not include relevant elaborations or descriptions.
Support: Word Choice	Clear, precise word choice that provides a natural, reasonable, and consistent tone to the response,	Word choice is adequate, but may lack precision.	Word choice is generally adequate.	Word choice is adequate, but limited, predictable, or occasionally vague. May include contrived use of elevated language or vocabulary.	Word choice is limited or underdeveloped.

## Conventions Rubric:

	100% Expert Writer:	95% Master Writer:	85% Journeyman Writer:	75% Apprentice Writer:	65% Novice Writer:
Varied Sentence Structure	Various sentence structures and styles that add compositional facility and rhythm to the response, allow emphasis of critical points, and create interest for the reader.	Sentences structures are varied.	Some varied sentence structures.	Although there is an attempt to vary sentence structure, most are simple constructions.	Sentences are simple.
Usage	Words are used correctly with few, if any, errors. Subjects and verbs agree; various parts of speech are used correctly.	Words are generally used correctly. Subjects and verbs agree; various parts of speech are used correctly.	Words are generally used correctly. Most subjects and verbs agree; various parts of speech are mostly used correctly.	Some knowledge of usage demonstrated.	Frequent errors in word usage.
Punctuation & Mechanics	Few, if any, errors in punctuation and mechanics.	Punctuation and mechanics are generally used correctly.	Punctuation and mechanics are generally used correctly with limited mistakes in more complex uses.	Some knowledge of punctuation, capitalization, and other mechanics demonstrated.	Frequent errors in the use of capitalization, punctuation, and other mechanics: _____.
Spelling	Few, if any, errors in spelling.	All commonly used words are spelled correctly, with few errors in more complex words.	Commonly used words are spelled correctly, with some errors in more complex words.	Commonly used words are generally spelled correctly, though more advanced words may not be.	Commonly used words are misspelled.