



Informational Writing Rubric

Grade 6

	1 Beginning	2 Approaching	3 Developing	4 Proficient	5 Advanced
Claim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece does not yet present a specific claim or main idea to tell readers what the piece will explore. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing suggests a claim, but it is not clearly or completely stated, or the claim does not yet completely answer the question or prompt. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece of writing provides a specific claim, sometimes called a main idea or thesis, that clearly previews the focus of the piece and fully answers the question or prompt.
Evidence Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece does not yet include evidence to support the claim. The evidence may be missing or unrelated to the claim. (Citations are not included when required.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some evidence develops the topic and supports the claim, but the writing does not include a variety of evidence types. Some facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples are not relevant or clearly connected to the claim. (Citations may be missing or inaccurate when required.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-chosen, relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information support the claim and present a thorough explanation of the topic. (When reference materials are used, accurate citations are included.)
Reasoning Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The facts and details do not yet have clear explanations to show how they support the claim. This piece uses language that is not closely related to the topic to explain the evidence. The language does not strengthen the connections between the evidence and the claim. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some facts and details have explanations to connect them to the claim, but other facts and details are not linked clearly to the claim. This piece uses some language that is precise and related to the topic to explain how the evidence supports the claim, but at other times the language used does not convey a deep understanding of the topic, the evidence, or the relationships between claims and evidence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed explanations show how facts and details support the claim and effectively link the evidence to the claim for the reader. Precise language and vocabulary related to the subject matter show how the evidence supports and strengthens the claim for the reader.
Coherence Weight: 5x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This piece does not yet have an introduction to reveal the topic or a preview the way information will be organized. This piece is not yet organized into sections of related ideas. This piece of writing does not yet have transitions to connect the ideas. This piece does not yet contain a conclusion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece has an introduction that reveals the claim of the writing, but it does not have a clear focus or suggest how the ideas will be organized. The information in this piece is divided into paragraphs or sections, but it does not yet have a clear strategy of organization that supports the claim main idea. Some transitions connect similar ideas within a group or topic, but some linking words, phrases, and clauses are not appropriate based on their meaning or purpose. This piece of writing includes a concluding statement or section, but it is not yet fully related to the information presented or developed into an effective conclusion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The piece of writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3 but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The introduction grabs readers' attention with a hook or general observation and narrows to a specific claim that is the focus of the piece. It previews the way the facts will be grouped and presented in the writing. The writing organizes related facts and details into paragraphs or sections using strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect to support the claim effectively. Formatting, graphics, and multimedia clarify the writing when appropriate. Accurate and effective transitions connect ideas to show how the information clearly supports the claim. This piece of writing includes an effective and well-written concluding statement or section.
Audience Appeal Weight: 2x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing shows the need for additional support in developing formal style and the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing exceeds the achievement described in level 1 but has not fully met the criteria for level 3. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing is challenging to read at times because of inconsistent style or errors in standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling, and can achieve more with revision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing exceeds the achievement described in level 3, perhaps containing only minor but consistent errors, but has not fully met the criteria for level 5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The writing maintains a formal style and accurate English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling and has very few errors.