

## **Grade 7**

# SEVEN-POINT, TWO-TRAIT RUBRIC: TRAIT 1 FOR ARGUMENTATIVE GENRE

Writing Trait	Points	Criteria
Idea Development, Organization, and Coherence This trait examines the writer's ability to effectively establish a point of view and to support the opinion with reasons from the text(s) read. The writer must form an opinion from the text(s) in his/her own words and organize reasons for the opinion (from text that they have read) in order to create cohesion for an opinion essay.	4	<ul> <li>The student's response is a well-developed argument that effectively relates and supports claims with clear reasons and relevant text-based evidence.</li> <li>Effectively introduces claim(s)</li> <li>Uses an organizational strategy to clearly present reasons and relevant evidence logically</li> <li>Supports claim(s) with clear reasons and relevant evidence using specific, well-chosen facts, details, or other information from credible sources and demonstrates a good understanding of the topic or texts</li> <li>Acknowledges and counters opposing claim(s), as appropriate</li> <li>Uses words, phrases, and/or clauses that effectively connect and show direct, strong relationships among claim(s), reasons, and evidence</li> <li>Establishes and maintains a formal style that is appropriate for task, purpose, and audience</li> <li>Provides a strong concluding statement or section that logically follows from the argument presented</li> </ul>
	3	The student's response is a complete argument that develops and supports claims with some text-based evidence.  Clearly introduces claim(s)  Uses an organizational strategy to present reasons and evidence  Uses facts, details, definitions, examples, and/or other information to develop claim(s)  Attempts to acknowledge and/or counter opposing claim(s), as appropriate  Uses words, phrases, or clauses that connect and show relationships among claim(s), reasons, and evidence  Uses a formal style fairly consistently that is appropriate for task, purpose, and audience  Provides a concluding statement or section that follows from the argument presented

Writing Trait	Points	Criteria
Idea Development, Organization, and Coherence This trait examines the writer's ability to effectively establish a point of view and to support the opinion with reasons from the text(s) read. The writer must form an opinion from the text(s) in his/her own words and organize reasons for the opinion (from text that they have read) in order to create cohesion for	2	<ul> <li>The student's response is an incomplete or oversimplified argument that partially supports claims with loosely related text-based evidence.</li> <li>Attempts to introduce claim(s)</li> <li>Attempts to use an organizational structure which may be formulaic</li> <li>Attempts to support claim(s) with facts, reasons, and other evidence sometimes, but logic and relevancy are often unclear</li> <li>Makes little, if any, attempt to acknowledge or counter opposing claim(s)</li> <li>Uses few words, phrases, or clauses to connect ideas; connections are not always clear</li> <li>Uses a formal style inconsistently or an informal style that does not fit task, purpose, or audience</li> <li>Provides a weak concluding statement or section that may not follow the argument presented</li> <li>The student's response is a weak attempt to write an argument and does not support claims with adequate text-based evidence.</li> <li>May not introduce claim(s)/claim(s), or they must be inferred</li> <li>May be too brief to demonstrate an organizational structure, or no structure is evident</li> <li>Has minimal support for claim(s)</li> <li>Makes no attempt to acknowledge or counter opposing claim(s)</li> <li>Uses minimal or no words, phrases, or clauses to connect ideas</li> <li>Uses very informal style that is not appropriate for task, purpose, or audience</li> </ul>
an opinion essay.		Provides a minimal or no concluding statement or section  The student will receive a condition code for various reasons:
	0	<ul> <li>Blank</li> <li>Copied</li> <li>Too Limited to Score/Illegible/Incomprehensible</li> <li>Non-English/Foreign Language</li> <li>Off Topic/Off Task/Offensive</li> </ul>



#### **Grade 7**

### SEVEN-POINT, TWO-TRAIT RUBRIC: TRAIT 2 FOR ARGUMENTATIVE GENRE

Writing Trait	Points	Criteria
Language Usage and Conventions This trait examines the writer's ability to demonstrate control of sentence formation, usage and mechanics as embodied in the grade-level expectations of the language standards.	3	<ul> <li>The student's response demonstrates full command of language usage and conventions.</li> <li>Effectively varies sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style</li> <li>Shows command of language and conventions when writing</li> <li>Any errors in usage and conventions do not interfere with meaning*</li> </ul>
	2	The student's response demonstrates partial command of language usage and conventions.  • Varies some sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style  • Shows some knowledge of language and conventions when writing  • Has minor errors in usage and conventions with no significant effect on meaning*
	1	The student's response demonstrates weak command of language usage and conventions.  Has fragments, run-ons, and/or other sentence structure errors  Shows little knowledge of language and conventions when writing  Has frequent errors in usage and conventions that interfere with meaning*
	0	<ul> <li>The student will receive a condition code for various reasons:</li> <li>Blank</li> <li>Copied</li> <li>Too Limited to Score/Illegible/Incomprehensible</li> <li>Non-English/Foreign Language</li> <li>Off Topic/Off Task/Offensive</li> </ul>

<sup>\*</sup>Students are responsible for language conventions learned in their current grade as well as in prior grades. Refer to the language skills for each grade to determine the grade-level expectations for grammar, syntax, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Also refer to the "Language Progressive Skills, by Grade" chart in the Appendix for those standards that need continued attention beyond the grade in which they were introduced.



## **Grade 7**

# SEVEN-POINT, TWO-TRAIT RUBRIC: TRAIT 1 FOR INFORMATIONAL/EXPLANATORY GENRE

Writing Trait	Points	Criteria
Idea Development, Organization, and Coherence This trait examines the writer's ability to effectively establish a controlling idea, support the idea with evidence from the text(s) read, and elaborate on the idea with examples, illustrations, facts, and other details. The writer must integrate the information from the text(s) into his/her own words and arrange the ideas and supporting evidence (from the text[s] read) in order to create cohesion for an informative/explanatory essay.	4	<ul> <li>The student's response is a well-developed informative/explanatory text that examines a topic in depth and conveys ideas and information clearly based on text as a stimulus.</li> <li>Effectively introduces a topic</li> <li>Effectively develops the topic with multiple, relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic</li> <li>Effectively organizes ideas, concepts, and information using various strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect</li> <li>Effectively uses appropriate transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts</li> <li>Uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic</li> <li>Establishes and maintains a formal style</li> <li>Provides a strong concluding statement or section that follows from the information or explanation presented</li> </ul>
	3	<ul> <li>The student's response is a complete informative/explanatory text that examines a topic and presents information based on text as a stimulus.</li> <li>Introduces a topic</li> <li>Develops the topic with a few facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples</li> <li>Generally organizes ideas, concepts, and information</li> <li>Uses some transitions to connect and clarify relationships among ideas, but relationships may not always be clear</li> <li>Uses some precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to explain the topic</li> <li>Maintains a formal style, for the most part</li> <li>Provides a concluding statement or section</li> </ul>
	2	The student's response is an incomplete or oversimplified informative/explanatory text that cursorily examines a topic based on text as a stimulus.  • Attempts to introduce a topic  • Attempts to develop a topic with too few details  • Ineffectively organizes ideas, concepts, and information  • Uses few transitions to connect and clarify relationships among ideas  • Uses limited language and vocabulary that does not inform or explain the topic  • Uses a formal style inconsistently or uses an informal style  • Provides a weak concluding statement or section

Writing Trait	Points	Criteria
Idea Development, Organization, and Coherence This trait examines the writer's ability to effectively establish a controlling idea, support the idea with evidence from the text(s) read, and elaborate on the	1	The student's response is a weak attempt to write an informative/explanatory text that examines a topic based on text as a stimulus.  May not introduce a topic, or topic is unclear  May not develop a topic  May be too brief to group any related ideas together  May not use any linking words to connect ideas  Uses vague, ambiguous, or repetitive language  Uses a very informal style  Provides a minimal or no concluding statement or section
idea with examples, illustrations, facts, and other details. The writer must integrate the information from the text(s) into his/her own words and arrange the ideas and supporting evidence (from the text[s] read) in order to create cohesion for an informative/explanatory essay.	0	The student will receive a condition code for various reasons:  Blank Copied Too Limited to Score/Illegible/Incomprehensible Non-English/Foreign Language Off Topic/Off Task/Offensive



#### **Grade 7**

# SEVEN-POINT, TWO-TRAIT RUBRIC: TRAIT 2 FOR INFORMATIONAL/EXPLANATORY GENRE

Writing Trait	Points	Criteria
Language Usage and Conventions This trait examines the writer's ability to demonstrate control of sentence formation, usage, and mechanics as embodied in the grade-level expectations of the language standards.	3	<ul> <li>The student's response demonstrates full command of language usage and conventions.</li> <li>Effectively varies sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style</li> <li>Shows command of language and conventions when writing</li> <li>Any errors in usage and conventions do not interfere with meaning*</li> </ul>
	2	The student's response demonstrates partial command of language usage and conventions.  • Varies some sentence patterns for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style  • Shows some knowledge of language and conventions when writing  • Has minor errors in usage and conventions with no significant effect on meaning*
	1	The student's response demonstrates weak command of language usage and conventions.  Has fragments, run-ons, and/or other sentence structure errors  Shows little knowledge of language and conventions when writing  Has frequent errors in usage and conventions that interfere with meaning*
	0	<ul> <li>The student will receive a condition code for various reasons:</li> <li>Blank</li> <li>Copied</li> <li>Too Limited to Score/Illegible/Incomprehensible</li> <li>Non-English/Foreign Language</li> <li>Off Topic/Off Task/Offensive</li> </ul>

<sup>\*</sup>Students are responsible for language conventions learned in their current grade as well as in prior grades. Refer to the language skills for each grade to determine the grade-level expectations for grammar, syntax, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Also refer to the "Language Progressive Skills, by Grade" chart in the Appendix for those standards that need continued attention beyond the grade in which they were introduced.



## **Grade 7**

### FOUR-POINT HOLISTIC RUBRIC: NARRATIVE GENRE

Writing Trait	Points	Criteria
This trait examines the writer's ability to effectively develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective	4	<ul> <li>The student's response is a well-developed narrative that fully develops a real or imagined experience based on text as a stimulus.</li> <li>Effectively establishes a situation and point of view and introduces a narrator and/or characters</li> <li>Organizes an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically</li> <li>Effectively uses narrative techniques, such as dialogue, description, and pacing, to develop rich, interesting experiences, events, and/or characters</li> <li>Uses a variety of words and phrases to convey the sequence of events and signal shifts in one time frame or setting to another</li> <li>Uses precise words, phrases, and sensory language consistently and effectively to convey experiences or events and capture the action</li> <li>Provides a conclusion that follows from the narrated experiences or events</li> <li>Integrates ideas and details from source material effectively</li> <li>Has very few or no errors in usage and/or conventions that interfere with meaning*</li> </ul>
techniques, descriptive details, and clear event sequences based on a text that has been read.  3	3	<ul> <li>The student's response is a complete narrative that develops a real or imagined experience based on text as a stimulus.</li> <li>Establishes a situation and introduces one or more characters</li> <li>Organizes events in a clear, logical order</li> <li>Uses narrative techniques, such as dialogue, description, and pacing, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters</li> <li>Uses words and/or phrases to indicate sequence of events and signal shifts in one time frame or setting to another</li> <li>Uses words, phrases, and details to capture the action and convey experiences and events</li> <li>Provides an appropriate conclusion</li> <li>Integrates some ideas and/or details from source material</li> <li>Has a few minor errors in usage and/or conventions that interfere with meaning*</li> </ul>

Writing Trait	Points	Criteria
This trait examines the writer's ability to effectively develop real or	2	<ul> <li>The student's response is an incomplete or oversimplified narrative based on text as a stimulus.</li> <li>Introduces a vague situation and at least one character</li> <li>Organizes events in a sequence but with some gaps or ambiguity</li> <li>Attempts to use some narrative technique, such as dialogue, description, and pacing, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters</li> <li>Uses occasional signal words inconsistently and ineffectively to indicate sequence of events and signal shifts in one time frame or setting to another</li> <li>Uses some words or phrases inconsistently and ineffectively to convey experiences and events and capture the action</li> <li>Provides a weak or ambiguous conclusion</li> <li>Attempts to integrate ideas or details from source material</li> <li>Has frequent errors in usage and conventions that sometimes interfere with meaning*</li> </ul>
imagined experiences or events using effective techniques, descriptive details, and clear event sequences based on a text that has been read.	1	<ul> <li>The student's response provides evidence of an attempt to write a narrative based on text as a stimulus.</li> <li>Response is a summary of the story</li> <li>Provides a weak or minimal introduction of a situation or character</li> <li>May be too brief to demonstrate a complete sequence of events or signal shifts in one time frame or setting to another</li> <li>Shows little or no attempt to use dialogue, description, and pacing to develop experiences, events, and/or characters</li> <li>Uses words that are inappropriate, overly simple, or unclear</li> <li>Provides few, if any, words that convey experiences, or events, or signal shifts in one time frame or setting to another</li> <li>Provides a minimal or no conclusion</li> <li>May use few, if any, ideas or details from source material</li> <li>Has frequent major errors in usage and conventions that interfere with meaning*</li> </ul>
	0	The student will receive a condition code for various reasons:  Blank  Copied  Too Limited to Score/Illegible/Incomprehensible  Non-English/Foreign Language  Off Topic/Off Task/Offensive

<sup>\*</sup>Students are responsible for language conventions learned in their current grade as well as in prior grades. Refer to the language skills for each grade to determine the grade-level expectations for grammar, syntax, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. Also refer to the "Language Progressive Skills, by Grade" chart in the Appendix for those standards that need continued attention beyond the grade in which they were introduced.