

Expository Writing

| | Exceeds Standard (4) | Meets Standard (3) | Emerging (2) | Attempt made (1) |
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| Thesis/Focus | Effectively and insightfully develops a clear, analytical, and comprehensive thesis that provides focus to the writing | Develops a reasonable thesis that provides focus to the writing | Develops a thesis that provides a limited focus to the writing | Fails to develop a clear thesis or lacks a thesis |
| Development of thesis | Demonstrates sophisticated critical thinking by using comprehensive examples, reasons, and supporting evidence | Demonstrates competent critical thinking by using adequate examples, reasons, and supporting evidence | Demonstrates some critical thinking by using examples, reasons, and supporting evidence that maybe inconsistent or inadequate | Uses weak critical thinking and inappropriate or insufficient examples, reasons, and supporting evidence |
| Organization | Presents information with a clear coherence and smooth, logical progression of ideas | Presents information with coherence and a logical continuity of ideas | Presents information with some lapses in coherence or progression of ideas | Presents ideas that are disjointed or incoherent |
| Word Choice | Use a variety of highly effective word choices | Uses a variety of generally effective word choices | Sometimes uses weak vocabulary or inappropriate word choice | Uses incorrect or simplistic vocabulary |
| Sentence Structure | Develops a variety of sophisticated sentence structures | Develops some variety of sentence structures | Develops sentence structures that lack variety or demonstrate problems | Develops sentence structures with severe flaws or frequent problems |

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| Language Conventions | Utilizes appropriate language conventions of grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage that are free of most errors | Utilizes appropriate language conventions of grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage that demonstrate few errors | Utilizes language conventions of grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage with errors which somewhat interfere with meaning | Utilizes language conventions of grammar, spelling, punctuation, and usage with frequent inaccuracies which interfere with meaning |
| Conclusion | Provides effective and complex closure that synthesizes ideas | Provides effective closure which summarizes the main points | Provides some sense of closure | Fails to provide sufficient closure |