

Grade 4 Opinion Writing Rubric- Easthampton

Number _____ Color _____

Winter, 2014

	Beginning	Developing	Meets	Exceeds
Purpose/Idea development	My opinion is unclear and/or my piece is missing supporting details/reasons.	My writing mostly stays on topic, but my ideas are loosely connected. I have a clear opinion and I have used at least 2 details/reasons to support my opinion.	My writing stays on topic throughout. I have a clear, well-focused opinion and I have used 3 or more details/reasons to support my opinion.	My writing is clear and focused. My opinion stands out and is strongly supported by many effective, detailed reasons, sources, and facts. I addressed the opposing point of view.
Organization/ Sequencing	My details are not in an order that makes sense. My piece is missing an introduction and/or conclusion.	Most of my details are in order. There is an introduction and a conclusion.	My details are written in an order that makes sense. I have a clear introduction that hooks the reader and a conclusion that wraps up the piece.	My details are in an order that builds and sustains the topic. My introduction hooks the reader in an original way. My transitions smoothly link one idea to another. My conclusion wraps up the piece in an original and thought-provoking way. My ending links to the beginning.
Conventions	My writing is confusing because of many spelling, punctuation, and grammatical errors.	Some of my words are spelled incorrectly. I have errors in punctuation and grammar, but they don't get in the way of meaning.	Almost all of my words are spelled correctly and my punctuation and use of grammar is mostly correct.	All but a few of my words are spelled correctly. I used proper grammar and punctuation.
Word Choice	I chose the same words and phrases over and over.	I chose ordinary words that communicated my opinion clearly, but the words and phrases lacked punch and flair.	I chose vivid words and phrases appropriately that linger or draw pictures in the reader's mind, but may be used inaccurately or seem overdone. I linked my opinion and reasons with words and phrases.	I chose vivid words and phrases appropriately that linger or draw pictures in the reader's mind and that are accurate, natural, and not forced. I linked my opinion with varied words and phrases.
Sentence Fluency	My sentences are often incomplete and/or run on.	Most of my sentences are complete, but sound alike.	Most of my sentences are complete and varied in length and language.	All sentences are well constructed and vary in length and language.
Voice	Very little of my writing is memorable or convincing. My feelings and thoughts are not clear.	Some parts of my writing are memorable, but overall my position is not that convincing. The writing lacks my personality (feelings and thoughts).	I wrote in a memorable and convincing way. I added my personality (feelings and thoughts) into the piece.	I wrote in a memorable and convincing way. I added my personality (feelings and thoughts) into the piece. My viewpoint grabs the reader's attention. The strength of my feelings and thoughts could influence my audience's viewpoint.

Total Points _____ out of 24

Average _____ out of 4
(An average of 3 =proficient)

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