

South Hadley High School Writing Rubric - Enhanced by Mr. B-G

	5: Awesomely Advanced	4: Peacefully Proficient	3: Needs Improvement	2: Insufficient
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Content</u></p> <p>Are my ideas, examples, and details clear, and do they capture the reader's attention?</p>	This paper is clear, focused, and holds the reader's attention. Relevant examples and details enrich the central idea, and showcase the writer's knowledge of the subject.	The writer has sufficiently defined the topic and supports it with details or examples. The reader has a good understanding of the writer's intent.	The writer has defined the topic in a way that shows inconsistencies. Some arguments are weak, illogical, or unconvincing.	The paper lacks a sense of clear purpose or central theme. To extract meaning from the text, the reader must make inferences based on sketchy or missing details.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Organization</u></p> <p>Have I organized my writing in a way that makes sense and helps the reader understand my thinking?</p>	The writer uses an organizational structure that fits the purpose of the writing task, and highlights the writer's key ideas. A developed introduction, logical transitions, and effective conclusion enhance the reading.	The paper has a recognizable and appropriate organizational structure, but key ideas are not necessarily brought to the forefront. The writer provides an introduction, transitions, and a conclusion.	The order and format of the paper lead to some confusion for the reader. There is only a minimal attempt to provide an introduction, transitions, or a conclusion.	Little to no organizational structure. Ideas, details, or events seem strung together in a loose or random fashion.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Word Choice /Content Vocabulary</u></p> <p>Did I use vocabulary that enhances my ideas, and that show my understanding of this subject?</p>	Rich, sophisticated language is used in an engaging and natural way, demonstrating a strong familiarity with the subject matter and its vocabulary.	The paper uses appropriate, relevant language that is functional and clear. The writer uses language related to the subject.	The words do not engage the reader and at times are inaccurate or cause distraction. Vocabulary related to the content is sometimes used.	Words are so nonspecific or inaccurate that only a limited meaning comes through. The writer uses little to no vocabulary related to the subject.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Voice</u></p> <p>Does my writing engage the reader in a way that is compelling and appropriate to the task?</p>	The writer uses appropriate tone and shows a strong commitment to their topic. The writing is brought to life through conviction, excitement, and/or humor, as appropriate.	The writer demonstrates a sense of commitment to the topic, and attempts to connect with the audience. Appropriate tone is employed throughout.	The reader does not get a strong sense of the writer as they read the piece. Appropriate tone is inconsistently employed.	The piece shows no awareness of audience or commitment to topic. The tone of the piece is flat, dull, and/or inappropriate.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sentence Fluency</u></p> <p>Do I vary my sentences in a way that helps my reader understand my ideas?</p>	Purposeful variation in sentence structure and length enhances the meaning and allows for fluent oral reading. Sentences are well constructed.	Sentences are constructed correctly and show some variation in length and structure.	Sentence structure has little to no variation, causing the reader to lose focus. Errors in sentence structure are evident.	Many errors in sentence structure make reading difficult. The reader gets lost trying to determine where thoughts start and stop.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Conventions</u></p> <p>Did I use correct spelling, grammar & punctuation so that the reader is not confused?</p>	The writer has a strong command of language conventions. Very few errors are evident, and do not affect readability.	The paper has occasional errors in language conventions. Some editing is required.	Noticeable errors in language conventions detract from the reader's ability to understand the meaning of the text. Editing for errors is a priority.	Errors in language conventions repeatedly frustrate the reader and make the text difficult to read.