Informative/Explanatory Writing Rubric for Grade Band 9-10

	4	3	2	1	0
Introduction	Effectively Introduces a topic and organizes ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions: include formatting, graphics, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.	Introduces a topic and organizes ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections: include formatting, graphics, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.	Introduces a topic and provides organization of ideas, concepts, and information: include formatting, graphics, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.	Introduces a topic but provides little organization of ideas, concepts, and information: include formatting, graphics, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.	No evidence of an introduction
Topic Development	Effectively develops the topic with well-chosen, relevant and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.	Develops the topic with relevant and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic	Develops the topic with some facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic	Develops the topic with few facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic	No evidence of topic development or development uses inappropriate facts, definitions, details or quotations
Varied Transitions and Sentence Structure to Create Cohesion	Effectively uses varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.	Uses frequently varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.	Uses some varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.	Uses few varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.	Transitions lack variety which fails to develop cohesion among major sections of the text

	4	3	2	1	0
Precise Language	Effectively uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic and to convey a style appropriate to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers.	Uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic and to convey a style appropriate to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers	Uses some precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic and to convey a style appropriate to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers	Lacks precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic and to convey a style appropriate to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers	Lacks evidence of precise language and domain-specific vocabulary
Formal and Objective Style	Effectively establishes and maintains a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.	Establishes and maintains a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.	Somewhat establishes and maintains a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.	Fails to maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.	No evidence of a formal and objective tone
Concluding Statement	Effectively provides a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.	Provides a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented	Somewhat provides a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.	Provides a concluding statement or section but it does not follow from and supports the information or explanation	No evidence of a concluding statement

Additional Comments:

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