Student Name _____ School _____ Date _____

Expository Writing Rubric

Student ID _____

Created 2006-2007

8th Grade PACE Performance Assessment of Critical Elements

For each category, place the number of points that best represent student performance in the box. Calculate the total points using the weight factor. Add the points for each section and place in highlighted "*Total Score*" box.

	Advanced (4)	Proficient (3)	Basic (2)	Below Basic (1)	Points	Weight	Total
Knowledge of Content							
Ideas	-Topic is clear -Accurate, relevant and in-depth supporting details based on solid research -Variety of sources enhance and clarify topic - Writer often interprets and analyzes research for audience -No evidence of plagiarism -Ideas are expressed in 3-5 pages	-Topic is clear -Supporting details are accurate, relevant and frequently based on solid research -Appropriate variety of sources to support topic -Writer sometimes interprets and analyzes research for audience -No evidence of plagiarism -Ideas are expressed in 3-5 pages	-Some evidence of a topic -Details are sometimes based on common knowledge or guesses rather than solid research -Sources may not support the topic - Writer rarely interprets and analyzes research for audience -No evidence of plagiarism -Ideas are expressed in less than 3 pages	-Topic is not clear -Poor or no supporting details -Sources do not support topic - Writer rarely or never interprets and analyzes research for audience -Evidence of plagiarism -Ideas are expressed in less than 3 pages		**X 3**	
Organization	-Purposeful and inviting introduction and conclusion -Effective use of transitions -Supporting evidence is logically organized and directly linked to main ideas -Paragraphing is organized and logical	-Introduction and conclusion are evident -Uses some transitions -Supporting evidence is organized and linked to main ideas -Paragraphing is organized and logical	-Introduction and conclusion are weak -Uses few transitions -Supporting evidence may be randomly ordered with unclear links to main ideas -Paragraphing may be poorly organized or illogical	-Lacks purposeful introduction and/or conclusion -Lacks transitions -Supporting evidence is missing or randomly ordered with little or no connection to main ideas -Little or no paragraphing		**X 2**	
						Knowledge of Content *Total Score*	

	Advanced (4)	Proficient (3)	Basic (2)	Below Basic (1)	Points	Weight	Total
Delivery of Content							
Word Choice	-Vivid, specific, and accurate use of vocabulary -Well chosen words make message clear and interesting -Avoids unnecessary jargon -Variety of word choice with little or no repetition	-Correct use of vocabulary -Word choice makes message clear -Limited jargon, but explained -Limited repetition of words	-Some incorrect use of vocabulary -Word choice sometimes distracts from message clarity -Some unexplained or unconnected jargon -Noticeable repetition of words	-Frequent incorrect use of vocabulary -Word choice distracts from message clarity -Frequent unexplained or unconnected jargon -Overly repetitive word choices		**X 1**	
Voice	-Enthusiasm for topic is evident throughout -Voice is consistently appropriate for audience and topic	-Enthusiasm for topic is sometimes apparent -Voice is usually appropriate for audience and topic	-Little interest in topic -Sometimes inappropriate voice for audience and topic	-Indifferent to topic -Consistently inappropriate voice for subject and audience		**X 1**	
Sentence Fluency	-Sentences are consistently complete and clear -Sentences are consistently varied in length and structure -Sentence structure consistently enhances reader's comprehension	-Most sentences are complete and clear -Most sentences are varied in length and structure -Sentence structure often enhances reader's comprehension	-Some sentences are complete and clear -Some sentences are varied in length and structure -Sentence structure sometimes interferes with reader's comprehension	-Sentences are rarely complete and clear -Sentences are short and simple -Sentence structure interferes with reader's comprehension		**X 1**	
Conventions	-Punctuation and capitalization are consistently accurate -Spelling is consistently accurate -Grammar is consistently accurate	-Minimal punctuation and capitalization errors -Minimal spelling errors -Minimal grammatical errors	-Frequent punctuation and capitalization errors -Frequent spelling errors -Frequent grammatical errors	-Little or no understanding of correct grammar, capitalization, spelling, and punctuation		**X 1**	
MLA Format -Heading and page numbers -Follows MLA font, spacing and margins -Quotations -Parenthetical citations in body -Works Cited page (missing Works Cited page = 0)	-Demonstrates consistent and correct use of MLA format -All 5 MLA components listed are present	-Demonstrates mostly consistent and correct use of MLA format -All 5 MLA components listed are present	-Demonstrates some understanding of MLA format -Works Cited page is included, but 1 other MLA component listed is missing	-Demonstrates little or no understanding of MLA format -Works Cited page is not included or more than 1other MLA component listed is missing		**X 1**	
						Delivery of Content *Total Score*	

Total Score of Expository Writing (add both "*Total Score*" boxes together)	