Writing Rubric

Name_____

Trait	5 Exceptional	3 Developing	1 Emerging
Ideas	• Clear, focused topic • Relevant, rich details • Fresh, original approach	• Topic needs more focus • More specific ideas are needed • Ideas are reasonably clear	• Unclear topic • Few relevant details • Unnecessary repetition
Organization	• Inviting introduction • Logical sequence • Unified paragraphs • Clear transitions • Effective conclusion	• Adequate introduction • Understandable sequence • Paragraphs are generally cohesive • Transitions are not always apparent • Adequate conclusion	• Weak introduction • Fumbled sequence • Unclear paragraphing • Missing transitions • Weak conclusion
Voice	• Compelling and engaging connection to the audience • Purpose is clear • Writer's personality is revealed	• Not fully engaging • Purpose sometimes apparent • Hints at the writer's personality	• Does not connect to the reader • No clear purpose • Reveals little about the author's perspective
Word Choice	• Words are specific and accurate • Lively verbs are used • Striking words and phrases	• Adequate words used • Everyday choices for verbs, nouns, adjectives and adverbs • Lacks colorful language	• Limited vocabulary • Words used incorrectly • Redundancy
Sentence Fluency	• Sentences vary in length • Sentences vary in structure • Sentence beginnings are varied	• Some variety in length • Some variety in structure • Sentence beginnings are mostly S-V	• Many fragments or run-ons • Little variety in length or structure • Many short sentences
Conventions	• Correct spelling • Correct capitalization • Correct punctuation • Correct grammar	• Most words are spelled correctly • Most words are capitalized correctly • Few punctuation errors • Minor grammar errors	• Frequent spelling errors • Many capitalization errors • Punctuation is missing or incorrect • Frequent grammar errors