

# Four-Point Scoring Rubric

	<b>1</b> <b>Experimenting</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Developing</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Effective</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Strong</b>
<b>Ideas</b> the meaning and development of the message	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Searching for a topic</li> <li>● Information limited or missing</li> <li>● No meaningful details</li> <li>● Disconnected thoughts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Beginning to define topic</li> <li>● Lacks specific information</li> <li>● Vague details</li> <li>● Glimmer of main point</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Topic defined but broad</li> <li>● Content clear but reader still left with questions</li> <li>● Detail support attempted</li> <li>● Begins to develop theme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Narrow and manageable topic</li> <li>● Goes beyond the obvious or predictable</li> <li>● Relevant, accurate details</li> <li>● Shows connections/insights</li> </ul>
<b>Organization</b> the internal structure of the piece	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No lead or conclusion</li> <li>● Sequencing and pacing not present</li> <li>● Connections are confusing or not present</li> <li>● Hard to follow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ineffective lead and conclusion</li> <li>● Sequencing and pacing confusing</li> <li>● Connections awkward</li> <li>● Formulaic structure detracts from content</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Routine lead and conclusion</li> <li>● Mostly logical sequencing and pacing</li> <li>● Predictable connections</li> <li>● Basic beginning, middle, ending</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Inviting introduction and satisfying conclusion</li> <li>● Effective sequencing and pacing</li> <li>● Thoughtful transitions</li> <li>● Smooth organization</li> </ul>
<b>Voice</b> the way the writer brings the topic to life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No concern for audience</li> <li>● Lifeless and mechanical</li> <li>● Flat or inappropriate</li> <li>● Purpose not present</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Occasionally intrigues the reader</li> <li>● Generally "risk free"</li> <li>● Sits on the surface</li> <li>● Purpose lacks conviction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reader/writer connection present but not strong</li> <li>● Pleasing yet "safe"</li> <li>● Energy level inconsistent</li> <li>● Purpose is credible but not powerful</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Effective and strong reader/writer connection</li> <li>● Takes risks</li> <li>● Reflects interest in and commitment to topic</li> <li>● Purpose is powerful and engaging</li> </ul>
<b>Word Choice</b> the specific vocabulary the writer uses to convey meaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Vocabulary is limited</li> <li>● Simple words used incorrectly</li> <li>● No figurative language</li> <li>● Words do not convey meaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Generally correct words; no spice</li> <li>● Language is functional</li> <li>● Attempt at figurative language</li> <li>● Words convey general meaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Some active verbs and precise nouns</li> <li>● Moments of sparkle here and there</li> <li>● Effective use of figurative language</li> <li>● Words enhance the meaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Powerful and engaging words</li> <li>● Wording accurate/specific/precise</li> <li>● Artful use of figurative language</li> <li>● Words/language creates meaningful pictures</li> </ul>
<b>Sentence Fluency</b> the way the words and phrases flow throughout the text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Choppy, rambling, or incomplete</li> <li>● No "sentence sense"</li> <li>● Oral reading difficult</li> <li>● Repetitive beginnings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Phrasing effects readability</li> <li>● Sentence structure impairs understanding</li> <li>● Parts invite oral reading</li> <li>● Too many sentences begin the same way</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sentences more mechanical than fluid</li> <li>● Sentences usually hang together</li> <li>● Can be read aloud easily</li> <li>● Sentences begin differently</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Easy flow and rhythm</li> <li>● Strong and varied sentence structure</li> <li>● Invites expressive reading</li> <li>● Overall sentence structure enhances meaning</li> </ul>
<b>Conventions</b> the mechanical correctness of the piece	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Spelling errors impede readability</li> <li>● Incorrect punctuation and capitalization</li> <li>● Many usage and grammar errors</li> <li>● Lack of paragraphing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Spelling correct on common words</li> <li>● End punctuation and easy capitalization mostly correct</li> <li>● Grammar errors not serious</li> <li>● Paragraphing irregular</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Spelling generally correct</li> <li>● Punctuation and capitalization usually correct</li> <li>● Grammar and usage are correct</li> <li>● Paragraphing correct</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Spelling correct even on more difficult words</li> <li>● Accurate punctuation and capitalization</li> <li>● Grammar and usage contribute to clarity</li> <li>● Paragraphing enhances style</li> </ul>
<b>Presentation</b> the overall appearance of the work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Handwriting unreadable</li> <li>● Random or lack of spacing</li> <li>● Poor use of white space</li> <li>● Overall appearance is unacceptable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Handwriting poor</li> <li>● Some thought given to spacing</li> <li>● Attempts at margins and headers</li> <li>● Overall appearance is distracting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Handwriting mostly legible</li> <li>● Spacing improves clarity</li> <li>● Margins and headers effective</li> <li>● Overall appearance is acceptable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Handwriting is consistent and uniform</li> <li>● Good balance of space and text</li> <li>● Effectively integrates graphic elements</li> <li>● Overall appearance is pleasing</li> </ul>