

New Britain High School | Explanatory Rubric



Content	Exemplary (4)	Proficient (3)	Progressing (2)	Emerging (1)	Non-scorable (0)
Claim	Insightful/sophisticated, precise, and knowledgeable claim(s)	Precise, knowledgeable claim(s)	Simplistic claim(s)	Flawed or unclear claim(s)	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to state a claim
Use of Evidence	Thoroughly supports inference(s) or conclusion(s) using substantial and relevant textual evidence	Competently supports inference(s) or conclusion(s) using substantial and relevant textual evidence	Supports inference(s) or conclusion(s) using some relevant textual evidence	Minimally supports inference(s) or conclusion(s) using minimal textual evidence	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to: support inference(s) or conclusion(s) using textual evidence
Critical Analysis (Complex ideas or events, topics, themes, rhetorical features in text)	Insightful/sophisticated and thought provoking analysis of topic/text that uses persuasive and valid reasoning to connect evidence with claim(s)	Competent analysis of topic/text that uses valid reasoning to connect evidence with claim(s)	Simplistic analysis of topic/text that uses some reasoning to connect evidence with claim(s)	Minimal or misdirected analysis of topic/text; reasoning is missing or does not connect evidence with claim(s)	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to analyze
Organization	Exemplary (4)	Proficient (3)	Progressing (2)	Emerging (1)	Non-scorable (0)
Introduction	Thoroughly establishes significance of claim(s)	Establishes significance of claim(s)	Establishes claim(s)	Claim(s) not clearly established	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to establish a claim
Body Paragraphs	Have a sophisticated topic sentence and precise details that are strategically organized to develop claim	Have a clear topic sentence and specific details that are organized to develop claim	Have a topic sentence and general details to develop claim	Have a weak topic sentence and details	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to establish a topic
Conclusion	Insightful conclusion expands & reflects essay content	Expands and reflects essay content	Reflects essay content, but may be superficial or a simple restatement of ideas	Does not reflect essay content	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of a conclusion
Transitions	Creates cohesion and clarifies relationships through the sophisticated use of appropriate and varied transitions within and between paragraphs	Creates cohesion and clarifies relationships through the use of appropriate and varied transitions within and between paragraphs	Creates uneven progression of ideas from beginning to end; simplistic use of transitions	Fails to develop claims within and between body paragraphs; minimal or inappropriate use of transitions	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to use transitions
Alignment	Organizes claims, reasons and evidence to thoroughly develop the main idea, using a purposeful and logical progression of ideas from beginning to end	Organizes claims, reasons and evidence to develop the main idea, using a logical progression of ideas from beginning to end	Organizes claims, reasons and evidence with some relationship to developing the main idea, using an uneven progression of ideas from beginning to end	Organization of claims, reasons is minimal or does not develop the main idea	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to organize ideas

Style	Exemplary (4)	Proficient (3)	Progressing (2)	Emerging (1)	Non-scorable (0)
Audience and Purpose	Style & tone are appropriate for audience and purpose and are created through the strategic use of precise language	Style & tone are appropriate for audience and purpose and are created through the competent use of language	Style & tone show consideration to audience and purpose and are created through the simplistic use of language	Style & tone show minimal consideration to audience and purpose through an inappropriate and/or inaccurate use of language	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to address the audience and purpose
Sentence Structure	Uses purposeful and varied sentence structure	Uses correct and varied sentence structure	Uses mostly correct and some varied sentence structure	Uses limited and/or repetitive sentence structure	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to structure sentences
Integration of Evidence	Sophisticated/insightful integration of evidence	Competent integration of evidence	Simplistic integration of evidence	Minimal integration of evidence	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to integrate evidence
Grammar Usage and Mechanics	Consistently applies the rules of Standard American English in regards to grammar and mechanics	Generally applies the rules of Standard American English with errors, that do not detract from overall meaning, in grammar and/or mechanics such as fragments, run-ons, agreement, syntax and punctuation	Inconsistently applies the rules of Standard American English with errors, that do not detract from overall meaning, in grammar and/or mechanics such as fragments, run-ons, agreement, syntax and punctuation	Infrequently applies the rules of Standard American English with errors, that detract from overall meaning, in grammar and/or mechanics such as fragments, run-ons, agreement, syntax and punctuation	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to apply rules of Standard American English
Documentation	Exemplary (4)	Proficient (3)	Progressing (2)	Emerging (1)	Non-scorable (0)
Shows accurate documentation form	Consistently includes appropriate citations	Includes appropriate citations	Includes appropriate citations	Includes appropriate citations but may contain errors in formatting	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to document sources
	Works Cited/Reference List page in proper format	Works Cited/Reference List page in proper format with only minor errors in punctuation	Works Cited/Reference List page, but does not follow proper format	Works Cited/Reference list page has multiple errors in formatting	
Process	Exemplary (4)	Proficient (3)	Progressing (2)	Emerging (1)	Non-scorable (0)
Shows evidence of a writing process	Sophisticated use of feedback to revise ideas and structure	Competent use of feedback to revise ideas and structure	Simplistic use of feedback to revise ideas and structure	Minimal use of feedback to revise mechanics only	A response will receive a score of NS if it provides no evidence of the ability to use feedback to revise