

Informational or Explanatory Text-Based Writing Rubric History/Social Studies, Science, & Technical Subjects Grades 9–10

	Score of 4	Score of 3	Score of 2	Score of 1
Research	The writing – makes effective use of available resources effectively uses relevant and sufficient text support from the resources with accuracy effectively uses credible sources*	The writing – makes adequate use of available resources uses relevant and sufficient text support from the resources with accuracy uses credible sources*	The writing – makes limited use of available resources inconsistently uses relevant and sufficient text support from the resources with accuracy inconsistently uses credible sources*	The writing – makes inadequate use of available resources fails to use relevant and sufficient text support from the resources with accuracy attempts to use credible sources*
Development	The writing — addresses all aspects of the writing task with a tightly focused and detailed response Skillfully integrates information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism skillfully develops the topic using well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples that are relevant and sufficient; i.e., maps, charts, tables, surveys, lab reports, demographic data	The writing — addresses the writing task with a focused response Integrates information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism develops the topic using well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples that are relevant and sufficient; i.e., maps, charts, tables, surveys, lab reports, demographic data	The writing – addresses the writing task with an inconsistent focus inconsistently integrates information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism inconsistently develops the topic using well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples that are relevant and sufficient; i.e., maps, charts, tables, surveys, lab reports, demographic data	The writing — attempts to address the writing task but lacks focus attempts to integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism develops the topic using facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples that are irrelevant and/or insufficient
Organization	The writing — • effectively introduces the topic • effectively organizes ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions • effectively uses appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts • provides an effective concluding statement or a section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic) • effectively uses technology, including the internet, to produce and publish writing*	The writing — • introduces the topic • organizes ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions • uses appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts • provides a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic) • uses technology, including the internet, to produce and publish writing*	The writing – introduces the topic organizes ideas, concepts, and information in a manner that may lack cohesion (ideas may be rambling and/ or repetitive) inconsistently uses appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts provides a concluding statement or section inconsistently uses technology, including the internet, to produce and publish writing*	The writing — identifies the topic has little or no evidence of purposeful organization attempts to use technology, including the internet, to produce and publish writing*
Language/Conventions	The writing — demonstrates an exemplary command of standard English conventions skillfully employs language and tone appropriate to audience and purpose has sentences that are skillfully constructed with appropriate variety in length and structure follows standard format for citation with few errors*	The writing – demonstrates a command of standard English conventions; errors do not interfere with understanding employs language and tone appropriate to audience and purpose has sentences that are generally complete with sufficient variety in length and structure follows standard format for citation with few errors*	The writing – demonstrates a limited and/or inconsistent command of standard English conventions; errors may interfere with understanding inconsistently employs language and tone appropriate to audience and purpose has some sentence formation errors and/or a lack of sentence variety follows standard format for citation with several errors*	The writing – demonstrates a weak command of standard English conventions; errors interfere with understanding employs language and tone that are inappropriate to audience and purpose has frequent and severe sentence formation errors and/or a lack of sentence variety follows standard format for citation with significant errors*