Opinion Teacher Rubric

Score	Planning and Implementation	Evidence of Genre Characteristics	Conventions of Grammar and Usage	Conventions of Mechanics
4	(CCSS W.5.1, W.5.4, W.5.5, L.5.6) The writer's ideas are well organized and well developed. The writer: • creates and maintains a meaningful organizational structure. • effectively groups related ideas to support the opinion. • uses well-chosen words and phrases that add effect to the opinion piece. • clearly maintains the opinion throughout the text.	 (CCSS W.5.8, W.5.9b, L.5.6) The writer demonstrates complete understanding of the features of an opinion text. The writer: clearly introduces the topic with a strong lead. states an opinion that shows a full understanding of the topic. includes multiple, logically ordered reasons for the opinion based on inferences made about the topic. includes well-chosen text evidence that supports each reason. uses a wide variety of linking words and phrases that connect reasons with evidence. includes an effective concluding sentence or paragraph that makes the reader think about the writer's ideas. has a voice that shows a strong conviction about the opinion. 	(CCSS W.5.5, L.5.1, L.5.3a) The writer correctly implements all conventions. The writer: • uses parts of speech in unique ways. • uses grammar conventions in clear and concise ways. • expands, combines, and reduces sentences in unique ways that enhance meaning and style.	(CCSS W.5.5, L.5.2) The writer correctly implements all conventions. The writer: • always correctly indents paragraphs. • makes no, or few, mechanical mistakes, and they do not hinder overall meaning.
3	The writer's ideas are adequately organized and developed. The writer: • creates and maintains an organizational structure. • groups related ideas to support the opinion most of the time. • uses words and phrases that add effect to the opinion piece. • maintains the opinion throughout the text.	The writer demonstrates an adequate understanding of the features of an opinion text. The writer: • introduces the topic with a lead. • states an opinion about the topic. • includes at least two logically ordered reasons for the opinion. • includes text evidence that supports each reason. • uses linking words and phrases that connect reasons with evidence. • includes a concluding sentence or paragraph. • has a voice that shows conviction about the opinion.	The writer implements most conventions. The writer: • uses parts of speech correctly. • uses grammar conventions correctly. • adequately expands, combines, and reduces sentences.	The writer implements most conventions. The writer: • correctly indents paragraphs most of the time. • makes occasional mechanical mistakes, but they do not hinder overall meaning.
2	The writer's ideas are somewhat organized and developed. The writer: • attempts to create an organizational structure. Ideas are difficult to follow. • attempts to group related ideas that support the opinion. • inadequately maintains the opinion throughout the text. Text suggests the writer does not understand the stated opinion. • uses few words and phrases that add effect to the opinion piece.	The writer demonstrates some understanding of the features of an opinion text. The writer: • attempts to introduce the topic. The lead is weak. • states a weak opinion about the topic. • includes one reason for the opinion. • includes some text evidence that supports the reason but evidence is weak. • uses some linking words and phrases that connect reasons with evidence. • includes a weak concluding sentence or paragraph. • has a voice that shows some conviction about the opinion.	The writer implements some conventions. The writer: • uses parts of speech correctly some of the time. • uses grammar conventions correctly some of the time. • expands, combines, and reduces sentences some of the time. Sentence structure may confuse meaning.	The writer implements some conventions. The writer: • indents paragraphs some of the time. • makes many mechanical mistakes, and they hinder overall meaning.
1	The writer's ideas are disorganized and undeveloped. The writer: • does not attempt to create an organizational structure. • does not group related ideas. The opinion is not supported. • does not maintain the opinion throughout the text. • uses few, if any, words and phrases that add effect to the opinion piece.	The writer demonstrates little, if any, understanding of the features of an opinion text. The writer: • does not introduce the topic. There is no obvious lead. • states an unclear opinion. • includes one reason for the opinion. • includes little, if any, text evidence that supports the reason. • uses few, if any, linking words and phrases that connect reasons with evidence. • does not include a concluding sentence or paragraph. • has a voice that shows little, if any, conviction about the opinion.	The writer implements few, if any, conventions. The writer: • rarely uses parts of speech correctly. • rarely uses grammar conventions correctly. • rarely expands, combines, and reduces sentences. Sentence structure confuses meaning.	The writer implements few, if any, conventions. The writer: • does not attempt to indent paragraphs. • makes many mechanical mistakes, and they hinder overall meaning.