

Name: _____ Date: _____ Topic/Prompt: _____

Information Paragraphs Scoring Guide

	Below Basic (1 point)	Basic (2 points)	Proficient (3 points)	Advanced (4 points)	Score
Organization	No plan	Attempts a plan	Clear plan	Well-developed plan	
	___ No topic sentence	___ Attempts a topic sentence	___ Clear topic sentence	___ Strong topic sentence	
	___ Reasons, details, or facts absent or do not match topic	___ Attempts some reasons, details, or facts	___ Good reasons, details, or facts	___ Strong reasons, details, or facts	
	___ No transitions or confusing transitions	___ Attempts some simple transitions	___ Simple transitions used correctly	___ Variety in transitions; connects ideas successfully	
	___ No conclusion or conclusion not clear	___ Attempts conclusion or repeats topic sentence	___ Simple but good conclusion or restates topic sentence	___ Conclusion restates topic sentence in a new (and effective) way	
Content	___ Information unclear or missing	___ Little information; information is repeated or wanders	___ All information relates to prompt, task, or topic	___ All information is interesting, helps explain the topic	
	___ No or confusing elaboration	___ Information shows limited understanding of the topic	___ Examples and explanations help reader clearly understand the topic	___ Interesting examples or explanations show an in-depth understanding of the topic	
	___ Paragraph off prompt or topic	___ Some attempt to develop a paragraph to fit the topic	___ Clearly addresses the prompt, task, topic	___ Well-developed paragraph brings topic to life	
Style	___ Incomplete sentences or sentences do not make sense	___ Short, simple sentences that often begin the same way	___ Some simple but complete sentences; some variety in sentences	___ Good variety in sentences and in the way sentences begin	
	___ Little or no description; descriptions unclear	___ Repeated words or phrases	___ Basic words or phrases used correctly	___ Descriptive words or phrases used effectively	
	___ No clear purpose in the writing	___ Paragraph not developed but shows some purpose for writing	___ Paragraph shows clear purpose for writing	___ Paragraph leaves no doubt about the purpose for the writing	
Neat + CUPS*	___ Filled with CUPS errors	___ Several CUPS errors	___ Some CUPS errors, but do not get in the way of reading	___ Hardly any CUPS errors	
	___ No paragraphing	___ Attempts a paragraph	___ Accurate paragraphing	___ Clearly a paragraph	
	___ Hard to read; messy	___ Readable but not neat	___ Neat, readable	___ Obvious effort by the writer to make the paragraph easy and fun to read	
* Neat = Neatness C = Capitalization U = Usage P = Punctuation S = Spelling					Total Score (16 possible)