

5th Grade Opinion Writing Rubric

| W5.1 Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information. | | | | |
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| Scoring Criteria | 1 - Beginning | 2 - Approaching | 3 - Competent* | 4 - Advanced |
| Purpose and Focus W5.1.a-d; W5.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Launches directly into the topic and/or opinion without an introduction. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows limited awareness of purpose. <input type="checkbox"/> Does not establish a focus. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows limited awareness of audience's needs by providing little or no context. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts an introduction to the topic/text. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows some awareness of purpose by stating or implying an opinion. <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts to establish focus, but the non-specificity of the opinion may cause lapses. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows some awareness of audience's needs by providing some context. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Orients the reader with an introduction to the topic/text. <input type="checkbox"/> Establishes a purpose by clearly stating an opinion. <input type="checkbox"/> Maintains focus on the opinion throughout. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows an awareness of audience's needs by providing relevant contextual details. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Engages reader with angled and compelling introduction to topic/text. <input type="checkbox"/> Establishes purpose by stating a convincing opinion or making a claim; maintains focus throughout. <input type="checkbox"/> Maintains clear focus on the opinion or claim throughout. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows strong awareness of audience's needs by anticipating the reader's response to the opinion or claim. |
| Idea Development W5.1.a-d; W5.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provides reason(s) for an opinion or implied opinion that may be illogical. <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts to support reason(s) with facts, details, but makes irrelevant connections. <input type="checkbox"/> Ends seemingly in the middle of a section with no sense of closure. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provides reasons for stated or implied opinion. <input type="checkbox"/> Includes facts and details; connects them to the reasons they support, but makes some inaccurate or illogical connections or fails to account for some information. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides a concluding statement or sentences that may feel abrupt or insufficient. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provides clear, logical reasons for opinion. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides clear explanation of how information (facts, details) supports opinion. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides a satisfactory concluding statement or section related to the opinion. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provides insightful reasons for opinion or claim. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides insightful explanation of how information supports opinion/claim. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides a compelling conclusion or section that builds on the claim. |
| Structure W5.1.a-d; W5.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Does not organize ideas and information coherently due to a lack of introduction, body and conclusion. <input type="checkbox"/> Includes information that appears to be in no particular order. <input type="checkbox"/> Does not use transitional words and phrases to link opinion and reason(s). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Organizes ideas and information in an attempted introduction, body and conclusion. <input type="checkbox"/> Organizes related ideas into sections or paragraphs that feel mostly cohesive, but may also include some information that does not seem to fit. These sections or paragraphs appear to be in no particular order. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses some transitional words and phrases, but may be repetitive. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Organizes ideas and information into logical introduction, body and conclusion. <input type="checkbox"/> Organizes related ideas into sections or paragraphs that are logically ordered. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses a variety of transitional words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., <i>consequently</i>, <i>specifically</i>) to link opinion to reasons and reasons to supporting facts and details. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Organizes ideas and information into purposeful, coherent introduction, body and conclusion. <input type="checkbox"/> Organizes related ideas strategically to strengthen impact of claim (e.g., presenting /refuting opposing side or ordering reasons from least to most compelling). <input type="checkbox"/> Uses transitional words, phrases, and clauses, including some that are more sophisticated (e.g., showing cause/effect, compare/contrast, sequence, etc.). |
| Research W5.7-9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Does not include any researched information. <input type="checkbox"/> Does not list sources. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts to summarize or paraphrase researched information. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides some source information. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Summarizes or paraphrases the information researched. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides list of resources. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Summarizes or paraphrases the information researched with accuracy. <input type="checkbox"/> Provides comprehensive list of resources. |
| Language and Conventions L5.1-3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Shows little evidence of correct grammar and usage. <input type="checkbox"/> Makes convention errors (e.g., capitalization, punctuation, and spelling) that impede communication. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows little or no evidence of how to use language and its conventions to create reader interest and style. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows little or no awareness of good word choice to convey appropriate tone for audience (e.g., formal vs. informal). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Shows some evidence of correct grammar and usage. <input type="checkbox"/> Use of conventions (e.g., capitalization, punctuation, and spelling) is mostly correct; errors do not impede communication. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows some evidence of how to use language and its conventions to create reader interest and style. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows some evidence of good word choice to convey an appropriate tone, but also uses language that is simple or inappropriate for audience and purpose. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Shows command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses knowledge of language and its conventions to create reader interest and style, e.g., expands, combines, and/or reduces sentences. <input type="checkbox"/> Chooses words to convey an appropriate tone for audience and purpose. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Shows and maintains a consistent command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage. <input type="checkbox"/> Shows and maintains a consistent command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses knowledge of language and its conventions to skillfully connect with audience. <input type="checkbox"/> Chooses words carefully to convey and maintain an appropriate tone for audience and purpose. |