Opinion Writing Rubric

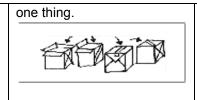
Structure

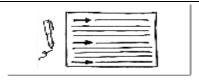
Overall: I made a claim or thesis on a topic or text, supported it with reasons, and provided a variety of evidence for each reason.

W.5.1 Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

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Did I do it like a	Needs Improvement	Developing	Satisfactory	Exceeds
fifth grader?				
_	1			
		2	3	4
Lead	I wrote a beginning in which I not only set readers up to expect that this would be a piece of opinion writing, but also tried to hook them into caring about my opinion.	I wrote a few sentences to hook my readers, perhaps by asking a question, explaining why the topic mattered, telling a surprising fact, or giving background information. I stated my claim.	I wrote an introduction that led to a claim or thesis and got my readers to care about my opinion. I got my readers to care by not only including a cool fact or jazzy question, but also figuring out what was significant in or around the topic and giving readers information about what was significant about the topic. I worked to find the precise words to state my claim; I let readers know the reasons I would develop later.	I wrote an introduction to interest readers and help them understand and care about a topic or text. I thought backwards between the piece and the introduction to make sure that the introduction fit with the whole. Not only did I clearly state my claim, I also told my readers how my text would unfold.

Transitions	I connected my ideas and reasons with my examples using words such as for example and because. I connected one reason or example using words such as also and after.	I used words and phrases to glue parts of my piece together. I used phrases such as for example, another example, one time, and for instance to show when I was shifting from saying reasons to giving evidence and in addition to, also, and another to show when I wanted to make a new point. For example another example one time.	I used transition words and phrases to connect evidence back for my reasons. I helped readers follow my thinking with phrases such as another reason and the most important reason. I used phrases such as consequently and because of to show what happened. I used words such as specifically, and in particular in order to be more precise. This shows that	I used transitions to help readers understand how the different parts of my piece fit together to explain and support my argument. I used transitions to help connect claim(s), reasons, and evidence, and to imply relationships such as when material exemplifies, adds on to, is similar to, explains, is a result of, or contrasts. I use transitions such as for instance, in addition, one reason, furthermore, according to, this evidence suggests, and thus we can say that.
Ending	I worked on an ending, perhaps a thought or comment related to my opinion. I wrote several reasons or examples of why readers should agree with my opinion and wrote at least several sentences about each reason.	I wrote an ending for my piece in which I restated and reflected on my claim, perhaps suggesting an action or response based on what I had written.	I worked on a conclusion in which I connected back to and highlighted what the text was mainly about, not just the preceding paragraph.	In my conclusion, I restated the important points and offered a final insight or implication for readers to consider. The ending strengthened the overall argument.
Organization	I organized my information so that each part of my writing was mostly about	I separated sections of information using paragraphs.	I grouped information and related ideas into paragraphs. I put the parts of my writing in the order that	I organized my argument into sections: I arranged reasons and evidence purposefully,





most suited my purpose and helped me prove my reasons and claim.



leading readers from one claim or reason to another. The order of sections and the internal structure of each section made sense.

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Development

Overall: I made a claim or thesis on a topic or text, supported it with reasons, and provided a variety of evidence for each reason.

W.5.1 Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

Did I do it like a fifth grader?	Needs Improvement	Developing	Satisfactory	Exceeds
	1	2	3	3
Elaboration	I not only told readers to believe me, but also wrote in ways that got them thinking for feeling in certain ways.	I gave reasons to support my opinion. I chose the reasons to convince my readers.	I gave reasons to support my opinion that were parallel and did not overlap. I put them in an order that I thought would be most convincing.	I included and arranged a variety of evidence such as facts, quotations, examples, and definitions.

	REASONS + DES	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	REASON 2 REASON 3	
Elaboration		I included examples and information to support my reasons, perhaps from a text, my knowledge, or my life. For example I read I learned. One time	I included evidence such as facts, examples, quotations, micro-stories, and information to support my claim. examples facts micro stories	I used trusted sources and information from experts and give the sources credit.
Elaboration			I discussed and unpacked the way that the evidence went with the claim.	I worked to explain how the reasons and evidence I gave supported my claim(s) and strengthened my argument. To do this I may have referred to earlier parts of my text, summarized background information, raised questions, or highlighted possible implications.
Craft	I not only told readers to believe me, but also wrote in ways that got them thinking or feeling in certain ways.	I made deliberated word choices to convince my readers, perhaps by emphasizing or repeating words that would make my readers feel emotions. My father is my greatest teacher.	I made deliberate word choices to have an effect on my readers.	I chose my words carefully to support my argument and to have an effect on my reader.
Craft		If I felt right to do so, I chose precise details and facts to help	I reached for the precise phrases, metaphor, or image that would	I worked to include concrete details, comparisons, and/or

	make my points and used figurative language to draw the readers into my line of thought. Family is like a puzzle.	convey my ideas.	images to convey my ideas, build my argument, and keep my readers engaged.
Craft	I made choices about which evidence was best to include or not include to support my points.	I made choices about how to angle my evidence to support my points.	When necessary, I explained terms to readers, providing definitions, context clues, or parenthetical explanations.
Craft	I used a convincing tone. (You Experts Why say Do You realize)	When it seemed right to do so, I tried to use a scholarly voice and varied my sentences to create the pace and tone of the different sections of my piece.	I made my piece sound serious.

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Language Conventions

L.5.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

Did I do it like	Needs Improvement	Developing	Satisfactory	Exceeds
a fifth grader?				

	1	2	3	4
Spelling	I used what I knew about spelling patterns to help me spell and edit before I wrote my final draft. Could should wouldn't could've	I used what I knew about word families and spelling rules to help me spell and edit. Clapping sitting making loving	I used what I knew about word patterns to spell correctly and I used references to help me spell words when needed.	
Spelling	I got help from others to check my spelling and punctuation before I wrote my final draft.	I used the word wall and dictionaries to help me when needed.	I made sure to correctly spell words that were important to my topic. nutrients calcium protein	I used resources to be sure the words in my writing are spelled correctly, including technical vocabulary.
Punctuation	I wrote in ways that helped readers read with expression, reading some parts quickly, some slowly, some parts in one sort of voice, and others in another voice.	When writing long, complex sentences. I used commas to make them clear and correct. Use commas to pause! For instance,	I used commas to set off introductory parts of sentences. Meanwhile, Later that day, As I read on,	

Punctuation	While writing, I put punctuation at the end of every sentence.	I used periods to fix my run-on sentences. Read + listen! Then \$6	I used a variety of punctuation to fix any run-on sentences.	I used punctuation such as dashes, parenthesis, colons, and semicolons to help me include extra information and explanation in some of my sentences.
Punctuation			I used punctuation to cite my sources. Experts say:	I accurately cited my references, using appropriate punctuation.