

## INFORMATIVE

Score	Percent	
4+	98	Score point of a 4 + exceeds all the criteria listed in the score of 4. In addition, a paper earning this score demonstrates an exceptional awareness of writing purpose.
4 4-	94 90	<p>The writing piece is fully sustained, and consistently and purposefully focused:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>controlling idea or main idea of a topic is clearly stated, focused, and strongly maintained</li> <li>controlling idea or main idea of a topic is introduced and communicated clearly within the purpose, audience, and task</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece has a clear and effective organizational structure creating a sense of unity and completeness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>consistent use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas</li> <li>logical progression of ideas from beginning to end</li> <li>effective introduction and conclusion for audience and purpose</li> <li>strong connections among ideas, with some syntactic variety</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece provides thorough and convincing support/evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes the effective use of sources, facts, and details. The response achieves substantial depth that is specific and relevant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use of evidence from sources is integrated, comprehensive, relevant, and concrete</li> <li>effective use of a variety of elaborative techniques</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece clearly and effectively expresses ideas, using precise language.</p> <p>The writing piece demonstrates an effective command of conventions.</p>
3+ 3 3-	87 83 77	<p>The writing piece is adequately sustained and generally focused:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>controlling idea or main idea of a topic is clear mostly maintained, though some loosely related material may be present</li> <li>some context for the controlling idea or main idea of the topic is adequate within the purpose, audience, and task</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece has an evident organizational structure and a sense of completeness, though there may be minor flaws and some ideas may be loosely connected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>adequate use of transitional strategies with some variety between and among ideas</li> <li>adequate progression of ideas from beginning to end</li> <li>adequate introduction and conclusion</li> <li>adequate, if slightly inconsistent, connection among ideas.</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece provides adequate support/evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes the use of sources, facts, and details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>some evidence from sources is included, though citations may be general or imprecise</li> <li>adequate use of some elaborative techniques</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece adequately expresses ideas, employing a mix of precise with more general language.</p> <p>The writing piece demonstrates an adequate command of conventions.</p>

2+ 2 2-	74 72 70	<p>The writing piece is somewhat sustained and may have a minor drift in focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• may be clearly focused on the controlling or main idea but is insufficiently sustained, or</li> <li>• controlling idea or main idea may be unclear and/or somewhat unfocused</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece has an inconsistent organizational structure, and flaws are evident:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• inconsistent use of transitional strategies and/or little variety</li> <li>• uneven progression of ideas from beginning to end</li> <li>• conclusion and introduction, if present, are weak</li> <li>• weak connection among ideas</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece provides uneven, cursory support/evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes partial or uneven use of sources, facts, and details. The response achieves little depth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• evidence from sources is weakly integrated, and citations, if present, are uneven</li> <li>• weak or uneven use of elaborative techniques</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece expresses ideas unevenly, using simplistic language.</p> <p>The response demonstrates an inconsistent command of conventions.</p>
1	60	<p>The writing piece may be related to the topic but may provide little or no focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• may be very brief</li> <li>• may have a major drift</li> <li>• focus may be confusing or ambiguous</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece has little or no discernible organizational structure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• few or no transitional strategies are evident</li> <li>• frequent extraneous ideas may intrude</li> </ul> <p>The writing piece provides minimal support/evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes little or no use of sources, facts, and details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• use of evidence from sources is minimal, absent, incorrect, or irrelevant</li> </ul> <p>The expression of ideas is vague, lacks clarity, or is confusing.</p> <p>The writing piece demonstrates an inconsistent command of conventions.</p>