

Tulare County Office of Education
Informative-Explanatory Writing Rubric
Grade 1



Score	Statement of Purpose/Focus	Organization	Elaboration of Evidence	Language and Vocabulary	Conventions
4 Meets all expectations set forth in (3)	The response addresses all aspects of the task and is fully sustained and consistently focused: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A topic is clearly stated, focused, and maintained Relevant information/explanation about the topic is provided 	Writing is used in order to address the writing tasks with a consistent purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies the topic Details/facts about the topic are provided in a logical manner Provides a strong conclusion 	The response provides thorough statements related to the prompt: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The topic is purposefully supported with multiple pieces of information related to the topic 	The response clearly and effectively expresses ideas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses appropriate linking words (transitions) correctly May have a strong sense of audience and purpose 	The response demonstrates a strong command of conventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few, if any, errors, in usage and sentence formation Effective and consistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling
3	The response is adequately sustained and focused: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topic is adequately stated for the most part maintained, though some loosely related material may be present. Information/explanation about the topic is provided 	Writing is used in order to address the writing tasks with an adequate focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topic is identified Details/facts about the topic are provided Provides a sense of closure 	The response provides adequate statements and phrases related to the prompts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some information related to the topic is provided 	The response adequately expresses ideas, employing a mix of precise with more general language <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of vocabulary is generally appropriate May have a sense of the audience and/or purpose 	The response demonstrates an adequate command of conventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some errors in usage and sentence formation are present, but no systematic pattern of errors is displayed. Adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling.
2	The response is somewhat sustained and may have a minor drift in focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topic is unclear and is insufficiently sustained. Information/explanation is provided and not all relevant to the prompt 	Writing is used to address the writing tasks with a focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The topic, if any, unrelated to the information provided Additional details/facts provided (if any) are loosely connected Closure/conclusion (if any) is weak 	The response provides statements and phrases somewhat related to the prompt: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some information, if present, is provided but may not be related to the topic 	The response expresses ideas unevenly, using simplistic language: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of vocabulary that may be simplistic May have little sense of the audience and/or purpose 	The response demonstrates a partial command of conventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent errors in usage may obscure meaning Inconsistent use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling
1	The response may be related to the topic but may offer little or no focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major drift in focus No supporting information/explanation is provided 	Writing is used to address the writing tasks with an unclear focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topic is unclear No additional details/facts are provided Missing conclusion and/or no sense of closure 	The response provides statements and phrases unrelated to the prompt: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional information is provided 	The expression of ideas, is vague, lacks clarity or is confusing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses limited language May have no sense of audience or purpose 	The response demonstrates a lack of command of conventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Errors are frequent and severe and meaning is often obscure Use of punctuation, capitalization, and spelling is not evident
0	A response gets no credit if it provides no evidence of the ability to write an informative/explanatory piece.				

