

REPORT OF INFORMATION RUBRIC (GRADE 6)

6 - A Superior paper commands attention because of its mature style. The writer reports the information in a clear, authoritative and committed voice. There is a rich variety of details which may include facts, examples, anecdotes, definitions and comparison/contrast. The controlling idea is stated or clearly implied and provides focus and coherence for the essay. The introduction engages the reader's interest and provides necessary context. The organization is smooth, seamless and clearly patterned. The writer creates this pattern by focusing on components of the subject and developing one or more with specific information. There is a satisfying conclusion. Characteristics of a 6 paper:

- Mature, appropriate word choice
- Sophisticated and varied sentences
- Few spelling errors (these may be "high risk" words)
- Strong command of the conventions of English (few errors in usage)

5 - A Strong paper is interesting and easy to read. Like the writer of a 6 paper, this writer clearly reports information with an authoritative voice. The writer presents useful, relevant information (although less than a writer of a 6 paper) including facts, details and examples. The controlling idea is stated or clearly implied. The writer begins and ends the essay effectively, but may not have established as clear a pattern as a 6 point essay and may, not display the same degree of control. Characteristics of a 5 paper:

- Strong word choice
- Fluent, clear sentences
- Few spelling errors (those typically seen in a first draft)
- Good command of the conventions of English (few errors in usage)

4 - An Adequate paper exhibits an acceptable level of writing competence, although it lacks the development or stylistic command of the 5 and 6 essays. The writer may report the subject eagerly but without the authority of the higher scoring papers. These essays may present general, less concrete information or there may be a wealth of specific information presented in a less coherent, focused manner. The controlling idea is directly stated and shapes the essay. The introduction may be little more than the controlling idea, or the essay may have an adequate introduction, but the conclusion may end abruptly. Characteristics of a 4 paper:

- Appropriate word choice
- Some sentence variety and despite a few fragments or run ons, shows control of sentence structure
- Minor spelling errors (low, distortion)
- Some minor usage errors

3 - A Minimal paper tends to be flat. The writer reports the information with less supporting detail than the 4 essay, relying more on generalization or opinion. The writer may only list facts

without any elaboration or may include irrelevant personal information. The writer's controlling idea may be a simple statement of topic. The paper may seem to lack planning and the organization may seem to be unfocused and rambling. The paper may lack a conclusion. Characteristics of a 3 paper.

- Imprecise word choice
- An understanding of sentence structure despite some sentence errors
- Frequent minor or occasional major spelling errors
- More frequent minor or occasional major usage errors

2 - A Weak paper may be sketchy and brief or fail to develop ideas. Although the writer's voice may be lively, the development of information is very thin. Rarely will the writer use specific detail to develop a point or he/she may rely entirely on personal experience or opinion. Some essays may be longer but will lack specific detail or coherence. Organization may be shaky; the reader may not be sure of where the writer is going, though the essay will usually be readable. The writer sometimes digresses and shows little point or forward movement. Characteristics of a two paper:

- Simplistic word choice
- Lacks understanding of sentence structure; frequent run ons/fragments
- Frequent errors in spelling and usage interfere with understanding

1 - Inadequate paper An inadequate paper suggests severe difficulties in reading and writing conventional English. Unlike a 2 point essay, a 1 point essay does not deliver much information. It contains few points or ideas and rarely includes details. The essay is badly organized and sometimes incoherent. The paper is usually very brief. Communication is severely impaired. Characteristics of a 1 paper:

- Limited word choice
- Frequent serious errors in spelling, usage and sentence structure