

GRADE 5 – INFORMATIVE/EXPLANATORY WRITING STUDENT RUBRIC

✓ = GREAT JOB

✓ = ALMOST THERE

— = ROOM TO GROW

See how you grow				Ask yourself: <i>Did I...?</i>
Focus on Task and Text	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> complete all parts of the prompt, and respond to each part completely?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> choose words and sentences that create a tone to fit the writing task and my readers?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> show that I understand the text or topic by discussing important ideas, events, and key details?
Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> introduce my topic focus briefly at the beginning?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> include an interesting observation or details to hook readers?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> organize related information in several paragraphs?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> connect information within and across paragraphs logically?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> connect evidence from the text to my ideas?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> add text features that fit my topic or main idea, such as formatting, illustrations, and multimedia? Formatting examples: (headings, bullets, or text boxes) Illustrations examples: (photographs, drawings, charts or diagrams) Multimedia examples: (audio, video, web links)
				use different linking words and phrases (Examples: <i>in other words</i> , <i>especially</i>) to connect
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> my ideas inside and across my paragraphs?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> categories of information about the same point?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> provide a clear ending that restates the main idea and important details?

See how you grow				Ask yourself: <i>Did I...?</i>
Development and Support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> support my ideas with accurate facts, definitions, details, quotations, or other information related to the topic?
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> use evidence from literary and/or informational texts to support my ideas?
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> organize my ideas and information in a way that makes sense?
				create writing that reflects
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> the format of the writing task? (Example: Use headlines and a hook for newspaper articles.)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> my reason for writing?
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> who my readers are and what they know about the topic?
Language	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> use precise language? (Example: Avoid overly general words like <i>nice, fun, pretty</i> .)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> use domain-specific language? (Example: Words about a topic, such as <i>harbor</i> when discussing a city where boats or ships can dock.)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> use words that fit my readers and reason for writing?
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> choose words and sentences that clearly explain my ideas?
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> use language that fits the format and type of writing? (Example: Avoid <i>I believe</i> in informative writing.)
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> include different kinds of sentences to keep my writing interesting?
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> include simple, compound, and complex sentences?
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> avoid sentence fragments and run-on sentences?

See how you grow				Ask yourself: <i>Did I...?</i>
Conventions	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use the rules I know about writing?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> check my writing so that it has no errors?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use verbs correctly, especially verbs that include <i>have</i> or <i>had</i> ?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use the correct verb tense to explain when actions happened, especially if moving back and forth in time?
				follow writing rules to correctly:
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use commas to separate items in a series?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use a comma to separate an opening from the rest of the sentence?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use a comma to separate the words <i>yes</i> or <i>no</i> ?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use a comma to separate a tag question? (Example: <i>It's true, isn't it?</i>)
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use a comma to show that sentences address a person directly? (Example: <i>Is that you, Steve?</i>)
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use underlining, quotation marks, or italics to correctly show that words are a title?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use the rules I know to spell words correctly?
	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> ✓	<input type="checkbox"/> —	<input type="checkbox"/> use a dictionary to check my spelling if I'm not sure?