**Assessment Rubric**: Explanatory Writing

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| Name: |  | Date: |  |

Rate your explanatory writing from 1 (incomplete) to 6 (amazing) for each trait below. Add the scores together and divide by the number of traits (6) to find your overall score.

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|  | **STIMULATING IDEAS** |
|  | ***The explanation . . .***   * presents a clear thesis about an interesting topic. * supports the thesis using strong main points and a variety of engaging details. |
|  | **LOGICAL ORGANIZATION** |
|  | ***The explanation . . .***   * catches the reader’s attention at the beginning and provides the thesis statement. * includes a well-formed paragraph for each main point. * ends by thoughtfully wrapping up the explanation. |
|  | **ENGAGING VOICE** |
|  | ***The explanation . . .***   * uses a confident, knowledgeable voice to explain. * conveys interest to the reader. |
|  | **ORIGINAL WORD CHOICE** |
|  | ***The explanation . . .***   * uses action verbs and precise nouns. * defines any unfamiliar terms. |
|  | **EFFECTIVE SENTENCE STYLE** |
|  | ***The explanation . . .***   * varies sentence types, lengths, and beginnings. * reads smoothly from sentence to sentence. |
|  | **CORRECT, ACCURATE COPY** |
|  | ***The explanation . . .***   * has correct punctuation, capitalization, grammar, usage, and spelling. |