

**CCSS Informational/Explanatory Writing Rubric  
Grade 1**

<b>Score</b>	<b>Purpose and Organization</b>	<b>Elaboration</b>	<b>Conventions</b>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text is clearly focused:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectively writes factual information about a concrete object, topic, text, or issue</li> <li>Logical progression of facts related to the topic</li> <li>Effective use of transition words where appropriate</li> <li>Effective closing that summarizes or provides a reflection</li> </ul>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text provides effective elaboration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes multiple details and/or elaboration related to the topic</li> <li>Includes deliberately inserted, varied, and appropriate descriptive language</li> <li>Effective use of varied, precise, and appropriate academic and domain specific vocabulary</li> </ul>	<p><b>The writing demonstrates a strong and consistent command of conventions :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forms complete simple and compound sentences with proper subject verb agreement correctly</li> <li>Uses correct capitalization for the first word in a sentence the pronoun “I”, dates, and names of people</li> <li>Spells words with common spelling patterns and frequently occurring irregular words correctly and uses inventive spelling for all other words that are decipherable by most readers</li> <li>Uses correct end punctuation</li> <li>Uses commas correctly in dates and to separate single words in a series (if used)</li> </ul>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text is adequately focused:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writes factual information about a concrete object, topic, text, or issue</li> <li>Adequate progression of facts about the object, topic, or issue</li> <li>Simple use of transitional words</li> <li>Provides an adequate sense of closure</li> </ul>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text provides adequate elaboration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes details and/or elaboration related to the topic</li> <li>Includes descriptive language</li> <li>Adequate use of academic and domain specific vocabulary</li> </ul>	<p><b>The writing demonstrates an adequate command of conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forms complete simple sentences with proper subject verb agreement most of the time</li> <li>Uses capitalization for the first word in a sentence the pronoun “I”, dates, and names of people most of the time</li> <li>Spells words with common spelling patterns and frequently occurring irregular words and uses inventive spelling for all other words that are decipherable most of the time</li> <li>Uses end punctuation most of the time</li> <li>Uses commas in dates and to separate single words in a series (if used)</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text is somewhat focused:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attempts to write about a topic but may be unclear or lacks focus</li> <li>Progression of facts may be uneven or formulaic</li> <li>Awkward use of transitions</li> <li>Closing , if present may be weak or patterned</li> </ul>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text provides minimal elaboration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes some details and/or elaboration but may not be related to the topic</li> <li>Attempts to use descriptive language</li> <li>Limited use of academic and domain specific vocabulary</li> </ul>	<p><b>The writing demonstrates a partial or inconsistent command of conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has many capitalization errors</li> <li>Spelling errors interfere with reading</li> <li>Inconsistent use of punctuation</li> </ul>
<b>1</b>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text lacks focus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fails to write about a topic, object, or issue, may be brief</li> <li>Facts may be very limited</li> <li>No transitional words</li> </ul>	<p><b>The informative/explanatory text provides no elaboration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lacks details</li> <li>Lacks descriptive language</li> <li>Lacks academic and domain specific vocabulary</li> </ul>	<p><b>The writing demonstrates a lack of command of conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Errors in capitalization, punctuation, and spelling are frequent and meaning is often obscured</li> </ul>