

TEXAS and MY Access!® Rubric Alignment Informative/Expository Grades 3-5

Texas STAAR Informational Writing	Informative/Expository
Organization and Development of Ideas	Organization/Focus and Purpose
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlling idea/Thesis is clear and fully developed. The controlling idea/thesis is clearly identifiable. The focus is consistent throughout, creating a response that is unified and easy to follow. • Organization is effective. A purposeful structure that includes an effective introduction and conclusion is evident. The organizational structure is appropriate and effectively supports the development of the controlling idea/thesis. The sentences, paragraphs, or ideas are logically connected in purposeful and highly effective ways. • Evidence is specific, well chosen, and relevant The response includes relevant text-based evidence that is clearly explained and consistently supports and develops the controlling idea/thesis. For pairs evidence is drawn from at least one text. The response reflects a thorough understanding of the writing purpose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a thorough and insightful understanding of the task, purpose, and audience. • Demonstrates a cohesive and unified structure that clarifies relationships among ideas and concepts. • Contains an engaging introduction and an insightful conclusion. • Uses effective and skillful paragraphing and transitional strategies throughout. • Establishes and maintains a clearly focused thesis/controlling idea throughout the response. • Completes all parts of the task and may go beyond the limits of the task.
	Content Development/Elaboration
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops ideas by adeptly integrating specific details and/or citing credible, source-based evidence to support the thesis/controlling idea. • Uses a variety of elaborative techniques.
Use of Language/Conventions	Language Use, Voice, and Style/Mechanics and Conventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expression of ideas is clear and effective The writer's word choice is specific, purposeful, and enhances the response. Almost all sentences and phrases are effectively crafted to convey the writer's ideas and contribute to the overall quality of the response and the clarity of the message. • Student writing demonstrates consistent command of grade-level-appropriate conventions, including correct: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ sentence construction ○ punctuation ○ capitalization ○ grammar ○ spelling • The response has few errors, but those errors do not impact the clarity of the writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a very effective style and tone, precise control of language, domain-specific word choice, and an exceptional awareness of audience. • Uses well-structured and varied sentences. • Contains few or no errors in grammar, mechanics, punctuation, and spelling.