GA Milestones and MY Access!® Rubric Alignment
Informative/Expository Grades 6-8

GA Milestones Informative /Explanatory Genre	MY Access! Informative/Expository
Idea Development/Organization/Coherence • **Effectively introduces** a **topic** • Groups related **ideas** together logically to give some organization to the writing • Effectively develops the **topic** with multiple, **relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations,** or other information and examples related to the topic • Effectively **uses transitions/linking words and phrases** to connect and clarify relationships among **ideas** within and across categories of information • Uses precise **language** and **domain-specific vocabulary** to effectively inform and explain about the **topic** • Provides a strong **concluding statement** or section related to the information or explanation presented • Effectively organizes **ideas,** concepts, and information using various strategies such as definition, classification, comparison/contrast, and cause/effect • Establishes and **maintains a formal style** **Language Usage and Conventions** • Has clear and complete **sentence structure**, with appropriate range and variety • Shows knowledge of **language** and its conventions when writing • Any **errors** in usage and conventions do not interfere with meaning	**Organization/Focus and Purpose** • 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** • **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. **Language Use, Voice and Style/Mechanics and Conventions** • Demonstrates a very effective **style** and tone, precise control of l**anguage**, **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.