

Junior Writing Portfolio Scoring Rubric

Category	5	4	3	2	1
1. Clarity/Style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing engages reader and enhances his/her understanding of the topic • Vocabulary & sentence structure are sophisticated and appropriate for the topic, discipline, and intended audience. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing enables reader to understand ideas with little or no re-reading. • Vocabulary and sentence structure are adequate, especially for discipline, but may lack sophistication. • Writer avoids redundancy. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing requires reader to frequently re-read in order to understand ideas or writing is so confusing that reader fails completely to understand ideas. • Simplistic word choice limits description and/or expression. • Redundancies distract and confuse reader.
2. Organization/ Fluidity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing clearly demonstrates an effective pattern of organization that facilitates the reader's understanding. • Papers have an effective beginning, sophisticated development, and thoughtful conclusion. • Writer employs clear and appropriate transitions. • Paragraphs reflect appropriate and mature levels of thought and development. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing follows an appropriate pattern of organization. • Overall unity and coherence are adequate • Some connections and transitions may be unclear. • Paragraphs reflect adequate levels of thought and development. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing's overall structure lacks coherence. • Organization of ideas may be confusing. • Transitions are awkward or absent. • Insufficient development of paragraphs. Poorly developed
3. Explanation/ Evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main points clearly stated and well advanced. • Statements substantially supported with compelling evidence. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main points adequately stated • Statements sufficiently supported with relevant evidence. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main points not clearly stated. • Statements insufficiently supported or supported with irrelevant evidence.
4. Critical Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insightful, well-articulated analysis, synthesis, and critique of the subject. • Sustains a well-focused analysis, connecting ideas in a sophisticated and logical manner. • Thoughtfully considers multiple viewpoints/positions where appropriate. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cogent, clear analysis, synthesis, and critique of the subject. • Connects ideas logically. • Identifies multiple viewpoints where appropriate. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Superficial and/or poorly articulated analysis of subject. • Fails to connect ideas logically. • Ignores or superficially evaluates multiple viewpoints.
5. Research Techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adeptly uses appropriate materials from a variety of resources to support ideas • Consistently employs a standard documentation style. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequately uses appropriate materials from a variety of resources to support ideas • Employs a standard documentation style with few errors. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fails to select and synthesize appropriate resources • Makes significant errors in documentation style.
6. Mechanics /Usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sophisticated use of grammatical conventions • Writing is virtually free from the kinds of errors that distract from meaning and readability. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grammatical structures are generally appropriate, although not necessarily perfect. • Occasional errors may distract from meaning and readability. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grammatical errors are so obtrusive that readers are seriously distracted by them.