

Grading Rubric – Adapted from Vermont New Standards Rubric

Criteria	Score Exceeds Standards A+	Score Accomplished Writing A	Score Intermediate Writing B	Score Basic Writing C	Score Limited Writing D	Score No real attempt F
Purpose (Controlling Idea)	All of column score A Plus – Personal dramatization	Purpose (thesis statement) stated and unifies & focuses report. Clear sense of direction Relevant information; knowledgeable stance Clear context (purpose) throughout	Purpose Stated but ineffective in unifying report. General sense of direction Gathered information; vague stance Sufficient context (purpose)	Subject simply stated and not controlling idea/focus Little of direction or purpose Some information; undeveloped stance Little context (purpose)	Subject only stated No direction or purpose Little information; no stance No context (purpose)	No attempt
Organization & Coherence	Clear & Concise	Organized Strong coherence; transitions Compelling beginning, middle, and end	General pattern Overall coherence; some transitions Clear beginning, middle, and end	Somewhat organized; Digressions General coherence; weak transitions Unclear beginning, middle, and end	Little organization Lacks coherence; no transitions No beginning, middle, and end	No attempt
Elaboration Strategies, Details		Added reflection of the information	Uses a variety of relevant (cited) details; depth of information	General details not well supported (cited)	General details (list like) Mostly opinion not facts	Scattered disconnected details No supported material