

## Writing Rubrics: Grade 8

**Note:** In your Amplify classes, you will be practicing writing in class for 10–15 minutes a couple of times a week. Your teacher will score this writing from time to time to check in on how well you are doing and where you may need some help.

### Focus

**Definition:** To select one specific moment or idea and to develop just this moment or idea in your writing.

#### 4 GREAT WORK

You write a minimum of 140 words AND almost all sentences develop the same moment, idea, or claim.

#### 3 VERY GOOD

You write a minimum of 105 words AND most of your sentences develop the same moment, idea, or claim.

#### 2 GETTING BETTER

You write a minimum of 50 words AND some of your sentences focus on the same moment, idea, or claim, but it is hard to understand how some sentences are connected.

#### 1 NEEDS WORK

You write a minimum of 25 words AND very few of your sentences are focused on one moment, idea, or claim.

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### Use of Evidence

**Definition:** Selecting and describing quoted or paraphrased details from a text to develop and support an idea.

#### 4 GREAT WORK

You write a minimum of 140 words AND you use evidence and describe the key parts of that evidence to show how it supports your idea or claim.

#### 3 VERY GOOD

You write a minimum of 105 words AND you use evidence and describe most of the key parts of that evidence to show how it supports your idea or claim.

#### 2 GETTING BETTER

You write a minimum of 50 words AND you use some evidence and describe some key parts of that evidence to show how it supports your idea or claim.

#### 1 NEEDS WORK

You write a minimum of 25 words AND you use almost no evidence and do not describe parts of that evidence to show how it supports your idea or claim.

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### Conventions

**Definition:** Conventions are the grammar and sentence mechanics skills that enable a writer to control the clarity and emphasis of a sentence.

#### 4 GREAT WORK

All of your sentences are complete and punctuated correctly.

#### 3 VERY GOOD

Most of your sentences are complete and punctuated correctly. A few errors may distract the reader, but do not make it challenging to understand your writing.

#### 2 GETTING BETTER

Most of your sentences are complete. Errors DO make it challenging to understand your writing.

#### 1 NEEDS WORK

Your sentences have many fragments and/or run-ons that prevent the reader from understanding your writing.