The Learning Institute's Writing Domains Scoring Rubric Grades 7-11

CONTENT	1	2	3	4
Focus and structure Clear thesis Sufficient amount of details Evenly elaborated Presence of closure	Lacking clear structure No discernible thesis Little or no elaboration Topic attempted	Loose structure Vague thesis Little elaboration "Grocery list" Repetitive Topic weakly addressed	Clear structure Thesis present or easily discernible Slight digression Topic mostly addressed	Organized, clear structure Thesis statement present Relevant, specific details Topic fully addressed
STYLE	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Specific, vivid, descriptive language used to fulfill purpose of the topic Precise verbs used Sentence variety Appropriate tone/voice is used	Very anemic/sparse Choppy/flat Little understanding of appropriate language	Functional, basic Choppy/flat Lacking specific language and variation	Has voice/appropriate tone Some specific vocabulary Attempted strategies to create appropriate style Might be a little wordy	Well-chosen, specific vocabulary Interesting to read Genuine voice and tone Purposefully chosen strategies to create style
SENTENCE FORMATION	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Sentences are complete with evidence of compound and/or complex structure No sentence fragments present No run-on sentences present	Serious errors	Many errors	Some errors, but most sentences are well-constructed	Variety of well-constructed sentences Very few errors in relation to length of piece
USAGE	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Subject/verb, pronoun/antecedent agreement Modifying phrases used correctly Appropriate word choice	Serious errors Little or no control	Significant errors inconsistent	Reasonable control and consistency	All of the features are handled well Very few errors in relation to length of piece
MECHANICS	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Capitalization Paragraphing (indentation) Correct punctuation Correct spelling	Serious errors that make it difficult to read/understand	Significant errors Reading/understanding impaired by mistakes	Some errors but not enough to significantly impair reading/understanding of the piece	All of the features are handled well Very few errors in relation to length of piece

School: _____   Teacher: _____   Suggested Scoring: Advanced = 17-20

Proficient = 14-16

Grade: _____   Student: _____   Basic = 11-13   Below Basic = 0-10