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| **Opinion Text-based Writing Rubric** **Grades 4-5** |
| **Score** | **Purpose, Focus, and Organization****(4-point Rubric)** | **Evidence and Elaboration****(4-point Rubric)** | **Conventions of Standard English****(2-point Rubric)** |
| **4** | * The response is consistently focused on task, purpose, and audience.
* It is clear, complete, and organized very well.
* The response includes most of the following:
* Clear and consistent opinion with little or no unrelated ideas
* Skillful use of transitions to show relationships among ideas
* Clear organization of ideas from beginning to end, including well-written introduction and conclusion
 | * The response provides detailed and convincing support/evidence for the writer’s opinion.
* It effectively uses sources, facts, and details.
* The response includes most of the following:
* Important evidence naturally included while citing the source.
* Effective use of many elaborative techniques

(definitions, quotations, examples, etc.)* Clear expression of ideas, using specific words
* Academic and domain-specific vocabulary
* Various sentence structure
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| **3** | * The response is focused on task, purpose, and audience.
* It is complete and organized.
* The response includes most of the following:
* Consistent opinion, though may include some unrelated ideas
* Good use of transitions with some variety to show relationships among ideas
* Organization of ideas from beginning to end, including a sufficient introduction and conclusion
 | * The response provides support/evidence for the writer’s opinion.
* It uses sources, facts, and details.
* The response includes most of the following:
* Evidence included, sources may or may not be cited
* Use of some elaborative techniques

(definitions, quotations, examples, etc.)* Expression of ideas, using specific and general words
* domain-specific vocabulary
* some variation in sentence structure
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| **2** | * The response is somewhat focused on task, purpose, and audience, but may include unrelated material.
* It may have inconsistent organization.
* The response may include the following:
* Partially focused opinion, but may not be clear
* Poor use of transitions with little variety
* Uneven organization of ideas from beginning to end, and may include an inadequate introduction or conclusion.
 | * The response provides uneven support/evidence for the writer’s opinion.
* Partial use of sources, facts, and details.
* The response includes most of the following:
* Poorly included evidence
* Repetition or ineffective use of elaborative techniques

(definitions, quotations, examples, etc.)* Simple expression of ideas
* Inappropriate domain-specific vocabulary
* Simple sentences
 | * The response demonstrates an understanding of basic conventions.
* The response may include the following:
* Some minor errors in usage, but no pattern of errors
* Good use of punctuation, capitalization, sentence formation, and spelling
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| **1** | * The response is related to the topic, but may not respond to task, purpose, or audience.
* There may be no organizational structure.
* The response may include the following:
* No clear opinion
* Unrelated ideas
* Few or no transitions
* Too short to show focus or organization
 | * The response provides little support/evidence for the writer’s opinion.
* Little use of sources, facts, and details.
* The response includes most of the following:
* Incorrect, minimal or unrelated evidence
* vague expression of ideas
* Limited or inappropriate domain-specific vocabulary
* Simple sentences
 | * The response demonstrates a partial understanding of basic conventions.
* The response may include the following:
* Various errors in usage
* Inconsistent use of correct punctuation, capitalization, sentence formation, and spelling
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| **0** |  |  | The response demonstrates a lack of understanding of conventions, with frequent errors that prevent the reader from understanding the meaning. |