Grade 8, Unit 2

Embedded Assessment 1: Writing an Expository Essay

**Scoring Guide**

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| **Scoring Criteria** | **Exemplary** | **Proficient** | **Emerging** | **Incomplete** |
| **Ideas** | The essay* maintains a focused thesis
* develops ideas thoroughly with relevant supporting details, facts, and evidence
* provides insightful commentary and deep analysis.
* Provides 3 TLQCCs in the body paragraphs.
 | The essay* Maintains a clear thesis
* develops ideas adequately with supporting details, facts, and evidence
* provides sufficient commentary to demonstrate understanding.
* Provides at least 2 TLQCCs in the body paragraphs.
 | The essay* Has an unclear thesis
* develops ideas unevenly or with inadequate supporting details, facts, or evidence
* provides insufficient commentary to demonstrate understanding.
* Provides 1 TLQCC in the body paragraphs.
 | The essay* has no obvious thesis
* provides minimal supporting details, facts, or evidence
* lacks commentary
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| **Structure** | The essay* contains all parts of the essay outline
* has an engaging introduction
* uses an effective organizational structure for a multi-paragraph essay
* uses a variety of transitional strategies to create cohesion and unity among ideas
* provides an insightful conclusion.
* Contains a Works Cited page; all docs are in MLA format
 | The essay* contains all parts of the essay outline
* has a complete introduction
* uses an appropriate organizational structure for a multi-paragraph essay
* uses transitional strategies to link ideas
* provides a conclusion that supports the thesis.
* Contains a Works Cited page; all docs are in MLA format
 | The essay* missing a few sections of the essay outline
* has a weak or partial introduction
* uses an inconsistent organizational structure for a multi-paragraph essay
* uses transitional strategies ineffectively or inconsistently
* provides a weak or unrelated conclusion.
* Contains a Works Cited page; all docs are in MLA format
 | The essay* missing several sections of the essay outline
* lacks an introduction
* has little or no obvious organizational structure
* uses few or no transitional strategies
* provides no conclusion.
* Does not contain a Works Cited page; all docs are not in MLA format
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| **Use of Language** | The essay* conveys a consistent academic voice
* embeds quotations effectively
* demonstrates command of standard English (caps, punc., sp., grammar, and usage)
 | The essay* conveys an academic voice
* embeds quotations correctly
* demonstrates adequate command of standard English (caps, punc., sp., grammar, and usage)
 | The essay* uses insufficient language and vocabulary
* embeds quotations incorrectly
* shows partial command of standard English (caps, punc., sp., grammar, and usage)
 | The essay* uses limited or vague language
* lacks quotations
* lacks command of standard English (caps, punc., sp., grammar, and usage).
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