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 |
| **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 |
| **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). |