

## Step 5: Developing the Scoring Rubric and/or Rubric for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

### Kindergarten Opinion Writing Rubric

Essential Skill or Knowledge	Below	Nearing	Meets	Exceeds	Comments	Score
Use a combination of drawing, dictating*, and writing to compose opinion pieces	I am unable to use drawing, dictating* or writing to write my opinion piece.	I am able to draw, dictate*, or use writing to write my opinion piece.	I am able to use a combination of drawing, dictating*, <b>and</b> writing to write my opinion piece.			
tell a reader the topic or the name of the book they are writing about	I am unable to state the topic or name of the book.		I am able to state the topic or name of the book.			
state an opinion or preference about the topic or book.	I am unable to state my opinion or preference about the book.		I am able state my opinion or preference about the book.	I am able to support my opinion or preference with a reason.		

### Kindergarten Opinion Writing Task

We read three books this week in our class. You are going to share your opinion, which means the one you like best, with \_\_\_\_\_.

Write your opinion and draw about your favorite book.  
(Librarian's Name)

\*Dictating means having the student read their writing to the teacher (when the teacher is unable to decipher the writing.). It is not assisting the student with the writing. See examples in [www.achievethecore.org](http://www.achievethecore.org).



## Grade 1 Opinion Writing Rubric

Essential Skill or Knowledge	Below	Nearing	Meets	Exceeds	Comments	Score
Introduce the topic or name the book they are writing about,	I am unable to introduce my topic, or I can't write my topic independently.		I introduce the topic for my opinion piece in writing.			
state an opinion,	I cannot state an opinion even with assistance.		I can state my opinion in writing.			
supply a reason for the opinion, and	I do not provide a reason to support my opinion.	I can provide a reason that may not support my opinion.	I can write at least one appropriate reason for my opinion.	I can write more than one appropriate reasons for my opinion.		
provide some sense of closure.	I can't provide some sense of closure.		My opinion piece includes a sense of closure.			

### Grade 1 Opinion Writing Task

Kindergarten students are nervous about coming to first grade. You are going to write to the kindergarten class to give your opinion as to what your favorite part of first grade is and give a reason why.

\*A sense of closure helps the reader know you are done writing. See examples in [www.achievethecore.org](http://www.achievethecore.org).



## Grade 2 Opinion Writing Rubric

Essential Skill or Knowledge	Below	Nearing	Meets	Exceeds	Comments	Score
Introduce the topic or book they are writing about	I'm unable to introduce my topic.		I introduce the topic for my opinion piece in writing.			
state an opinion	I cannot state an opinion.		I can state my opinion in writing.			
supply reasons that support the opinion	I do not provide reasons to support my opinion.	I can provide a reason to support my opinion.	I can write more than one reason to support my opinion.	I can link my reasons together in a ways that makes sense.		
use linking words (e.g., <i>because, and, also</i> ) to connect opinion and reasons	I do not use linking words to connect opinion and reasons.		I use linking words to connect opinion and reasons.	I use different linking words throughout my writing.		
provide a concluding statement or section.	I can't provide a concluding statement or section.		My opinion piece includes a concluding statement or section.			

### Grade 2 Opinion Writing Task

You are going to write to your classmates about your favorite book. You are going to write your opinion as to which book is your favorite and give more than one reason why. With this writing, you are going to try to convince your classmates to read your favorite book.

\*See resource in writing assessment book regarding linking words. See examples in [www.achievethecore.org](http://www.achievethecore.org).



### Grade 3 Opinion Writing Rubric

Essential Skill or Knowledge	Below	Nearing	Meets	Exceeds	Comments	Score
Introduce the topic or text they are writing about	I'm unable to introduce my topic or text.		I introduce the topic or text for my opinion piece in writing.			
state an opinion	I cannot state an opinion.		I can state my opinion in writing.			
create an organizational structure that lists the reasons that support the opinion	I am unable to create an organizational structure that lists the reasons to support the opinion.	I can create an organizational structure that links the reason to support my opinion.	I can create an organizational structure that list more than one reason to support the opinion.	I can create an organizational structure in which my reasons that are similar are grouped together.		
use linking words and phrases (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons	I do not use linking words and phrases to connect opinion and reasons.	I use linking words or phrases to connect opinion and reasons.	I use linking words to connect opinion and reasons.	I use a wide variety of linking words and phrases to enhance my writing.		
provide a concluding statement or section.	My writing does not include a concluding statement or section.		My writing includes a concluding statement or section.			

### Grade 3 Opinion Writing Task

You are going to write to your school principal. In the writing, you are going to state your opinion about a school rule that should be added or changed. The principal will want to know more than one reason why.

\* An organizational structure is when the ideas start to flow together by having a beginning, middle and end. See examples in [www.achievethecore.org](http://www.achievethecore.org).



## Grade 4 Opinion Writing Rubric

Essential Skill or Knowledge	Below	Nearing	Meets	Exceeds	Comments	Score
Introduce the topic or text clearly	I am unable to introduce the topic or text.		I am able to introduce the topic or text clearly			
state an opinion	I am unable to state an opinion.		I am able to state an opinion.			
create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose	I am unable to create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose.	I am able to create an organizational structure. My ideas are not grouped to support the writer's purpose.	I am able to create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose			
provide reasons that are supported by facts and details	I am unable to provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.	I am able to provide reasons that support my opinion, but the reasons are not supported by facts or details.	I am able to provide reasons that are supported by facts and details.	I can provide reasons to support my opinion that are logically ordered and supported by facts and details.		
Link opinion and reasons using words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition)	I am unable to link opinion and reasons using words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition).		I am able to link opinion and reasons using words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition).			
provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.	I am unable to provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.		I am able to provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.			

### Grade 4 Opinion Writing Task

Your school is trying to decide if we should allow pets in classrooms. In writing the school principal, you are going to state your opinion as to if pets should or should not be allowed in the classrooms and give reasons why. You will read the attached resources to help form and support your opinion with evidence.

\*See resource in writing assessment book for examples of linking words and phrases and organizational structures. See examples in [www.achievethecore.org](http://www.achievethecore.org).



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## Grade 5 Opinion Writing Rubric

Essential Skill or Knowledge	Below	Nearing	Meets	Exceeds	Comments	Score
Introduce the topic or text clearly	I am unable to introduce the topic or text.		I am able to introduce the topic or text clearly.			
state an opinion	I am unable to state an opinion.		I am able to state an opinion.			
create an organizational structure in which related ideas are logically grouped to support the writer's purpose	I am unable to create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose.	I am able to create an organizational structure. My ideas are not logically grouped to support the writer's purpose.	I am able to create an organizational structure in which related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose			
provide logically ordered reasons that are supported by facts and details	I am unable to provide logically ordered reasons that are supported by facts and details.	I am able to provide logically ordered reasons that support my opinion but are not based in facts or details.	I am able to write logically ordered reasons that are supported by facts and details.	I am able to write logically ordered reason that are supported by facts and details from credible sources.		
Link opinion and reasons using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., consequently, specifically)	I am unable to link opinion and reasons using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., consequently, specifically)	I am able to link opinion and reasons using words and phrases.	I am able to link my opinion and reasons by using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., consequently, specifically) .	I am able to create relationships between my opinion and reasons using words and phrases.		
provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.	I am unable to provide a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.		My opinion piece includes a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented.			

### Grade 5 Opinion Writing Task

You are going to write the school principal to state your opinion as to why or why not cell phones should be allowed in the classrooms. You will read the attached resources to help form and support your opinion with evidence.

\*See resource in writing assessment book for examples of linking words, phrases and clauses and organizational structures. See examples in [www.achievethecore.org](http://www.achievethecore.org).



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