

KEYSTONE INFORMATIVE/EXPLANATORY SCORING GUIDELINES

| Scoring Domain | Score Point 4 At this score point, the writer— | Score Point 3 At this score point, the writer— | Score Point 2 At this score point, the writer— | Score Point 1 At this score point, the writer— | Score Point 0 At this score point, the writer— |
|---------------------|--|--|---|---|--|
| Thesis/Focus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes and sustains a precise controlling idea/thesis displays a clear understanding of task, purpose, and audience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes a controlling idea/thesis displays an understanding of task, purpose, and audience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides an inconsistent idea/thesis displays an inadequate understanding of task, purpose, and audience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides a vague or indistinct controlling idea displays a limited understanding of task, purpose, and audience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides no evidence of a controlling idea/thesis displays no understanding of task, purpose, and audience does not respond to prompt |
| Organization | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> chooses sophisticated organizational strategies appropriate for task, purpose, and audience includes a clear and well-defined introduction, body, and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> chooses appropriate organizational strategies for task, purpose, and audience includes a clear introduction, body, and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> displays little evidence of organizational strategies may not include an introduction, body, and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> displays little to no evidence of organizational strategies may not include an identifiable introduction, body, and conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> displays no evidence of organizational strategies does not include an identifiable introduction, body, and conclusion does not respond to prompt |
| Content | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides relevant content and specific and effective supporting details that demonstrate a clear understanding of purpose uses sophisticated transitional words, phrases, and clauses to link ideas and create cohesion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides relevant content and effective supporting details uses transitional words, phrases, and clauses to link ideas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides insufficient content and ineffective supporting details may use simplistic and/or illogical transitional expressions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides minimal content uses few or no transitional expressions to link ideas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides little to no content does not use transitional expressions to link ideas does not respond to prompt |
| Style | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses consistently precise language and a wide variety of sentence structures chooses an effective style and tone and maintains a consistent point of view | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses precise language and a variety of sentence structures chooses an appropriate style, tone, and point of view | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses imprecise language and a limited variety of sentence structures may choose an inappropriate style or tone and may shift point of view | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses simplistic or repetitious language and limited sentence structures demonstrates little or no understanding of style, tone, or point of view | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses simplistic, repetitious language and one type of sentence structure demonstrates no understanding of style, tone, or point of view does not respond to prompt |