

RUBRICS:

CRITICAL ATTRIBUTES

FOR

DIFFERENT GENRE

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SIX TRAIT RUBRIC

Name _____ **Date** _____

No		Yes
Not Evident		Very Evident
0	1 2	3 4
	Fix-up	

IDEAS

- 0 1 2 3 4 1. Is the author's message clear?
 0 1 2 3 4 2. Did the author have enough information?

ORGANIZATION

- 0 1 2 3 4 3. Does the paper have a good beginning?
 0 1 2 3 4 4. Does the paper have a good ending?
 0 1 2 3 4 5. Did the author present his/her ideas in the best order?

VOICE

- 0 1 2 3 4 6. Does the writing sound like the author?
 0 1 2 3 4 7. Did the writing tell what the author truly thinks and
 feels?

WORD CHOICE

- 0 1 2 3 4 8. Will the reader understand the author's words?
 0 1 2 3 4 9. Did the author use words that he/she loves?

SENTENCE FLUENCY

- 0 1 2 3 4 10. Do the sentences begin in different ways?
 0 1 2 3 4 11. Are some sentences long and some short?
 0 1 2 3 4 12. Is the paper easy to read aloud?

WRITING CONVENTIONS

- 0 1 2 3 4 13. Are the paragraphs indented?
 0 1 2 3 4 14. Are capitals used correctly?
 0 1 2 3 4 15. Are punctuation marks used correctly?
 0 1 2 3 4 16. Are the words spelled correctly?

CONVENTIONS CHECKLIST

Name _____ Date _____

No Not Evident	0	1	2	3	4	Yes Very Evident
	<u> </u>					
	Fix-up					

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Do the sentences make sense ? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Are capitals used correctly? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Are punctuation marks used correctly? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Are the words spelled correctly? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Are the paragraphs indented ? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Is the handwriting/typing neat and legible? |

DESCRIPTIVE PARAGRAPH

Name _____ Date _____

No		Yes
Not Evident		Very Evident
0	1	2
	3	4
	Fix-up	

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the first sentence tell what is being described? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Do the other sentences tell more about what is being described? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Are descriptive words used? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Are the sentences written in a logical order? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Does the paragraph paint a clear and accurate picture of what is being described? |

DESCRIPTIVE ESSAY

Name _____ Date _____

No Not Evident	0	1	2	3	4	Yes Very Evident
	Fix-up					

INTRODUCTION

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the introduction state what is being described? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does the introduction capture the reader's interest? |

BODY

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does each paragraph describe a part of what is being described. |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Does the first sentence of each paragraph tell what part is being described? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Do the other sentences in each paragraph tell more about what is being described? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Are descriptive words used? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 7. Do the paragraphs paint a clear and accurate picture of what is being described? |

CONCLUSION

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 8. Does the author restate what is being described? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 9. Does the author summarize the description? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 10. Does the essay have a definite end? |

FACTUAL PARAGRAPH

Name _____ Date _____

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4	
	Fix-up				

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the first sentence tell the topic of the paragraph? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Do the remaining sentences give supporting details about the topic? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Is the information presented in a logical order? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Are linking words (e.g., however, therefore, first) used to connect ideas where appropriate? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Is the paragraph easy to understand? |

FACTUAL REPORT

Name _____ Date _____

No		Yes
Not Evident		Very Evident
0	1	2
	3	4
	Fix-up	

INTRODUCTION

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the introduction tell what the report is about? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does the introduction capture the interest of the reader? |

BODY

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does the body tell important information about the report topic? |
|-----------|---|

Does each paragraph in the body:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Focus on one subtopic? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Present important details about the subtopic? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Use linking words to connect sentences when appropriate? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 7. Are the paragraphs in the body easy to understand? |

CONCLUSION

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 8. Does the conclusion retell the most important information about the report topic? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 9. Does the report have a definite end? |

PERSUASIVE PARAGRAPH

Name _____ Date _____

No Not Evident	0	1	2	3	4	Yes Very Evident
	Fix-up					

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the first sentence state the author's opinion? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Do all of the other sentences present reasons, facts, or examples to support the writer's opinion? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does the concluding sentence restate the author's opinion? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Is the author's opinion clear? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Are the arguments convincing? |

PERSUASIVE ESSAY

Name _____ Date _____

No Not Evident	0	1	2	3	4	Yes Very Evident
	Fix-up					

INTRODUCTION

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1. Does the introduction state the author's opinion? |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 2. Does the introduction state the author's major reasons for his/her opinion? |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3. Does the introduction capture the reader's interest? |

BODY

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4. Does each paragraph present a reason to support the author's opinion? |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5. Do the remaining sentences in each paragraph present facts and examples to support the reason? |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6. Has the author considered arguments on the other side of the issue? |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7. Are the reasons convincing? |

CONCLUSION

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8. Does the author restate his/her opinion? |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9. Does the author summarize his/her reasons for the opinion? |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 10. Does the essay have a definite end? |

PARAGRAPHS THAT COMPARE (SAME) AND CONTRAST (DIFFERENT)

Name _____ Date _____

No Not Evident	0	1	2	3	4	Yes Very Evident
	Fix-up					

Compare (Same) Paragraph

- 0 1 2 3 4 1. Does the first sentence tell the two things that are being compared?
- 0 1 2 3 4 2. Does the first sentence tell that the paragraph will tell how the things are the same?
- 0 1 2 3 4 3. Do the remaining sentences tell how the two things are same or similar?
- 0 1 2 3 4 4. Are the similarities clear?
- 0 1 2 3 4 5. Is the paragraph easy to understand?

Contrast (Differences) Paragraph

- 0 1 2 3 4 6. Does the first sentence tell the two things that are being contrasted?
- 0 1 2 3 4 7. Does the first sentence tell that the paragraph will tell how the things are different?
- 0 1 2 3 4 8. Do the remaining sentences tell how the two are different?
- 0 1 2 3 4 9. Are the differences clear?
- 0 1 2 3 4 10. Is the paragraph easy to understand?

ESSAYS THAT COMPARE (SAME) AND CONTRAST (DIFFERENT)

Name _____ Date _____

No Not Evident	0	1	2	3	4	Yes Very Evident
	Fix-up					

INTRODUCTION

- 0 1 2 3 4 1. Does the introduction tell the two things that are being compared and contrasted?
- 0 1 2 3 4 2. Does the introduction capture the reader's interest?

BODY

- 0 1 2 3 4 3. Does each paragraph address one characteristic that is either similar or different?

Does each paragraph in the body:

- 0 1 2 3 4 4. Focus on one characteristic?
- 0 1 2 3 4 5. Clearly identify if the things are similar or different in regard to that characteristic?
- 0 1 2 3 4 6. Are the paragraphs in the body easy to understand?

CONCLUSION

- 0 1 2 3 4 7. Does the author summarize the similarities and differences between the things?
- 0 1 2 3 4 8. Does the essay have a definite end?

SUMMARY

Name _____ Date _____

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4	
	Fix-up				

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the summary state the main idea of the material? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does the summary only contain important details? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Are ideas combined when possible? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Is the summary written in the author's own words? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Is the summary brief? |

PARAGRAPH THAT GIVES DIRECTIONS

Name _____ Date _____

No		Yes
Not Evident		Very Evident
0	1	2
	3	4
	Fix-up	

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does the first paragraph introduce or describe what is to be done? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does the writer tell you the materials that will be needed? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does the writer tell how to do it step by step? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Are the directions written in sequential order (the order you would do the task)? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Does the writer include all of the steps or directions? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Does the writer use sequencing words such as next, then? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 7. Could the reader follow the directions? |

BOOK REPORT

Name _____ Date _____

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
0	1	2	3		4
	Fix-up				

- | | | |
|-----------|--|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | 1. Does the book report tell the title of the book? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | 2. Does the book report tell the author of the book? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | 3. Does the book report summarize the story? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | a. the setting of the story |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | b. the main character |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | c. the main character's problem or conflict |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | d. what the character did to try to solve the problem |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | e. what happened in the end |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | f. how the character felt |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | 4. Did the writer tell his/her opinion about the book? |

SHORT STORY

Name _____ Date _____

No Not Evident	0	1	2	3	4	Yes Very Evident
	Fix-up					

SETTING

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Did the author tell WHERE the story took place? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Did the author tell WHEN the story took place? |

MAIN CHARACTER

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Did the author tell you the name of the main character? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Did you learn something about the main character? |

PROBLEM

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Did the author tell you the main character's problem? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Does the main character try to solve the problem? |

PLOT

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 7. Does the story have a <u>beginning</u> ? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 8. Does the story have a <u>middle</u> ? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 9. Does the story have an <u>end</u> ? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 10. Is the plot interesting? |

SHORT STORY (ADVANCED)

Name _____ Date _____

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4	
	Fix-up				

SETTING

- 0 1 2 3 4 1. Did the author include details about the setting(s) (time and place)?
- 0 1 2 3 4 2. Did the author use descriptive words to tell about the setting?

CHARACTERS

- 0 1 2 3 4 3. Did the author include details about the actions, behavior, feelings, and appearance of the main character?
- 0 1 2 3 4 4. Did the author include dialogue in the story?

CONFLICT/PROBLEM

- 0 1 2 3 4 5. Does the main character (or characters) have a problem or conflict?
- 0 1 2 3 4 6. Does the story tell how the character(s) tried to solve the problem or resolve the conflict?

PLOT/EVENTS

- 0 1 2 3 4 7. Is there a definite beginning to the story?
- 0 1 2 3 4 8. Is there a middle to the story?
- 0 1 2 3 4 9. Is there a definite end to the story?
- 0 1 2 3 4 10. Are the events organized logically (time sequence)?
- 0 1 2 3 4 11. Do the events lead to a resolution of the conflict (problem)?
- 0 1 2 3 4 12. Is the plot interesting?

MYSTERY

Name _____ Date _____

No		Yes
Not Evident		Very Evident
0	1	2
	3	4
Fix-up		

SETTING

- 0 1 2 3 4 1. Did the author include details about the setting (time and place)?
- 0 1 2 3 4 2. Did the author use descriptive words to tell about the setting?

CHARACTERS

- 0 1 2 3 4 3. Does the mystery have the following characters:
- a. a detective
- b. a victim
- c. a number of suspects
- 0 1 2 3 4 4. Did the author include details about the actions, behavior, feelings, and/or appearance of the characters?

MYSTERY

- 0 1 2 3 4 5. Does the author introduce a mystery?
- 0 1 2 3 4 6. Does the story tell how the detective(s) tried to solve the mystery?

PLOT/EVENTS

- 0 1 2 3 4 7. Is there a definite beginning to the story?
- 0 1 2 3 4 8. Is there a middle to the story?
- 0 1 2 3 4 9. Is there a definite end to the story?
- 0 1 2 3 4 10. Are the events organized logically (time sequence)?
- 0 1 2 3 4 11. Are clues provided for the solving of the mystery?
- 0 1 2 3 4 12. Do the events lead to a resolution to the mystery?
- 0 1 2 3 4 13. Is the plot interesting?

FABLE

Name _____ Date _____

No		Yes
Not Evident		Very Evident
<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
Fix-up		

SETTING

0 1 2 3 4 1. Did the author include details about the setting (time and place)?

0 1 2 3 4 2. Did the author use descriptive words to tell about the setting?

CHARACTERS

0 1 2 3 4 3. Does the fable use animals as characters?

0 1 2 3 4 4. Do the animals act and talk like humans?

0 1 2 3 4 5. Are the animals well-suited to their roles in the story?

CONFLICT/PROBLEM

0 1 2 3 4 6. Does the main character (or characters) have a problem or conflict?

0 1 2 3 4 7. Does the story tell how the character(s) tried to solve the problem or resolve the conflict?

PLOT/EVENTS

0 1 2 3 4 8. Is there a definite beginning to the story?

0 1 2 3 4 9. Is there a middle to the story?

0 1 2 3 4 10. Is there a definite end to the story?

0 1 2 3 4 11. Are the events organized logically (time sequence)?

0 1 2 3 4 12. Do the events lead to a resolution to the conflict (problem)?

MORAL (LESSON)

0 1 2 3 4 13. Does the fable have an important lesson about life?

0 1 2 3 4 14. Does the lesson fit the story?

0 1 2 3 4 15. Is the moral (lesson) stated at the end?

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL INCIDENT

Name _____ Date _____

No	Yes
Not Evident	Very Evident
0	4
1	
2	
3	
Fix-up	

0 1 2 3 4 1. Did the author share an incident (story) from his/her personal experience?

0 1 2 3 4 2. Did the author elaborate, including a great deal of information about the incident?

0 1 2 3 4 3. Did the author convey his/her feelings about the event?

Organization

0 1 2 3 4 4. Is the paper well organized?

0 1 2 3 4 5. Does the paper have an interesting beginning?

0 1 2 3 4 6. Does the paper have a middle?

0 1 2 3 4 7. Does the paper have an end?

0 1 2 3 4 8. Did the author introduce the events in order?

0 1 2 3 4 9. Is the paper easy to understand?

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Name _____ Date _____

No		Yes	
Not Evident			Very Evident
0	1	2	3
	4		
	Fix- up		

INTRODUCTION

0 1 2 3 4 1. Did the author capture your interest at the beginning of the biography?

BODY

0 1 2 3 4 2. Did the author include many details about the person?

3. After reading the biography, would you have some idea about:

0 1 2 3 4 a. the appearance of the person?

0 1 2 3 4 b. the actions, behaviors, and or the feelings of the person?

0 1 2 3 4 c. the personality of the person?

0 1 2 3 4 d. why the person is memorable or important?

0 1 2 3 4 4. Did the person come alive in the biography?

0 1 2 3 4 5. Did the author continually focus the biography on the person?

0 1 2 3 4 6. Did the author organize the material in a logical order (by chronology, by setting, by different situations, by different aspects of the subject's personality)?

0 1 2 3 4 7. Does the material in the biography seem complete?

0 1 2 3 4 8. Did the author tell you about the author's feelings toward the person?

CONCLUSION

0 1 2 3 4 9. Does the ending give a sense of completion?

THANK YOU LETTER

Name _____ Date _____

No					Yes
Not Evident					Very Evident
0	1	2	3	4	
	Fix- up				

HEADING

0 1 2 3 4 1. Does it include a complete date?

GREETING

0 1 2 3 4 2. Does the letter have an appropriate greeting?

BODY

0 1 2 3 4 3. Does the first sentence tell what you are thanking the reader for?

0 1 2 3 4 4. Do the other sentence tell why you are thanking them?

0 1 2 3 4 5. Is the body easy to understand?

CLOSING

0 1 2 3 4 6. Does the letter have an appropriate closing?

0 1 2 3 4 7. Did the author sign his/her name?

FRIENDLY LETTER

Name _____ Date _____

No					Yes
Not Evident	0	1	2	3	Very Evident 4
	Fix- up				

HEADING

0 1 2 3 4 1. Does it include a complete date?

GREETING

0 1 2 3 4 2. Does the letter have an appropriate greeting?

BODY

0 1 2 3 4 3. Does the author share his/her personal experiences?

0 1 2 3 4 4. Does the author share his/her current interests?

0 1 2 3 4 5. Does the body of the letter have a "friendly" tone?

0 1 2 3 4 6. Is the body of the letter easy to understand?

CLOSING

0 1 2 3 4 7. Does the letter have an appropriate closing?

0 1 2 3 4 8. Did the author sign his/her name?

BUSINESS LETTER

Name _____ Date _____

No					Yes
Not Evident	0	1	2	3	Very Evident 4
	Fix- up				

HEADING

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 1. Does it include the author's complete address? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 2. Does it include a complete date? |

INSIDE ADDRSS

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 3. Does the inside address include the name of the company? |
|-----------|---|

GREETING

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 4. Does the letter have an appropriate greeting? |
|-----------|--|

BODY

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 5. Does the letter say exactly what the author wants? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 6. Does the body include specific information? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 7. Is the body of the letter easy to understand? |

CLOSING

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 7. Does the letter have an appropriate closing? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 8. Did the author sign his/her full name? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | 9. Did the author print or type his/her full name under the signature? |

DIAMONTE-POETRY

Name _____ Date _____

No		Yes
Not Evident		Very Evident
0	1	2
	3	4
Fix- up		

- | | | |
|-----------|--|---|
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | 1. Did the author include the correct elements? |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | First line-----noun |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | Second line-----two adjectives |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | Third line-----three “ing” words |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | Fourth line-----two adjectives |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | Fifth line----- noun |
| | | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | 2. Did the author use descriptive words? |
| | | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | 3. Do all lines refer to the same topic? |
| | | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | 4. Does the poem have a diamond shape? |
| | | |
| 0 1 2 3 4 | | 5. Does the poem sound interesting when read aloud? |