Fourth Grade	Level 1-	Level 2-	Level 3-	Level 4-
Reading Rubric	Novice	Intermediate	Proficient	Above Proficient
Determine meaning of general academic and domain-specific vocabulary R. Standard 4.4 Determine the meaning of general academic and domain- specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area.	Student does not define given term or defines the term incorrectly. Alternatively, the student may define the term not using the provided text.	Student defines the term but the explanation of meaning is somewhat confusing or merely restates what the text says without rephrasing.	Determines meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area. Demonstrates understanding of meaning of given term through information gained from provided source. Attempts to rephrase meaning given by the text and	Demonstrates understanding of the meaning of the given term, and pulls from more than one part of the text to support this understanding, perhaps including examples.
			explanation of term's meaning is clear.	
Delineating and Evaluating Argument and Claims	Wrongly attributes reasons and evidence to a point which they do not support.	Recounts one or two details and attempts to explain how they support the main point.	Explains how an author uses reasons and evidence to support a particular point.	Student identifies two or more supportive reasons and provides a clear explanation to
R. Standard 4.8 Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.	Alternatively, the student might list some unconnected details. Provides little to no explanation of how reasons and evidence support a particular point i.e. "A Russian girl hid with her baby sister in the basement so they wouldn't get killed."	The explanation may be too brief to serve its purpose, or parts of the explanation may be unclear. The student may have identified details of unequal weight. i.e. "One reason that shows this is a Russian girl was almost killed. Another reason that shows this is that there were no jobs."	Explains how reasons and evidence support a given point. Provides at least two reasons and uses text evidence to support each reason. i.e. "One reason that supports the point is that immigrants were escaping danger. Another reason that supports the point is that immigrants were escaping hunger."	show how a particular reason supports a point. Explanation might show how reasons and evidence support a second point and/or might make mention of the author as deliberately including reasons and evidence to support the given point and i.e. (After sufficiently introducing the topic and focus) "The author supports this point by giving reasons that showed what immigrants were escaping. Immigrants came to America to escape danger and poverty."

	Level 1- Novice	Level 2- Intermediate	Level 3- Proficient	Level 4- Above Proficient	
Fourth Grade Writing Rubric	W. Standard 4.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.				
a. Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g. headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.	Does not provide an introduction or merely makes clear the focus of the explanation i.e. "The reasons that support the point are"	Provides a brief introduction which may include the title of the text and the focus of the explanation. i.e. "In <i>Ellis Island</i> it says that immigrants escaped difficulties. One reason"	Introduces a topic clearly Groups related information in paragraphs and sections. Introduces the author's point clearly by orienting the reader to the topic and text referenced. Provides title and author of text. i.e. "In <i>Ellis Island</i> by Judith Jango-Cohen, the author makes the point that immigrants escaped difficulties by coming to America. One reason that supports	Introduces the topic, orienting the reader by providing both a general observation (i.e. context) and focus (i.e. the author's point), referencing the text and may preview the content of the piece. i.e. "In the late 1800s and early 1900s millions of immigrants left their homes and came to America to start new lives. In <i>Ellis Island</i> by Jango-Cohen, the author discusses reasons why immigrants left their homes. One point the author makes"	
	Provides facts and details but does not group information or does so in a way that is disorganized or unclear.	Groups related information but does not always create sections and paragraphs.	Groups supporting ideas and relevant evidence in paragraphs and sections. It's clear how each section has been organized.	Creates an organizational structure in some sections or paragraphs of related information are logically ordered (i.e. choosing to put the most persuasive information last, ordering information in particular paragraph chronologically, etc.)	
b. Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete	Does not use information from the text to develop the	Attempts to develop the topic using facts and details from	Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details,	Develops the topic with a variety of text evidence,	

leterile en stations on	topic and/or uses information	the text they all does as		elaborating on the textual
details, quotations, or	topic and/or uses information that is inaccurate. May	the text, though does so sporadically or ineffectively	quotations, or other	information provided by
other information and examples related to the	include extraneous	(i.e. citing evidence or details	information and examples related to the topic.	attempting to state how it
-	information that does not	that do not specifically	related to the topic.	relates back to the topic or
topic.	relate to the topic at hand.	support a particular point).	Provides a greater variety of	idea.
	Terate to the topic at hand.	support a particular point).	text evidence, including facts,	idea.
			definitions, concrete details,	
			quotations, or other	
			information and examples	
			from the text provided. All	
	Does not refer to text.		information is relevant.	
		Occasionally makes reference	information is relevant.	
		to sources when including	Refers directly to sources	Properly cites when quoting
		information from them,	when including information	from the text.
		though not consistently and/or	from them.	
		vaguely.		
c. Link ideas within	Uses few, if any, linking	Uses some linking words and	Links ideas within	Links ideas within and across
categories of information	words or phrases to connect	phrases to connect ideas	categories of information	categories of information
using words and phrases	ideas within categories of	within categories of	using words and phrases	using words, phrases, and
(e.g. another, for	information.	information (e.g. also,	(e.g., another, for example,	clauses (e.g. in contrast,
example, also, because).		another, and, more, but)	also, because).	especially).
• • • • •		though many ideas remain		
		unconnected.	Uses a greater variety of	
			linking words to make more	
			complex connections within	
			categories of information.	
d. Use precise language and	Does not incorporate precise,	Attempts to use precise,	Uses precise, domain-	Uses precise, domain-specific
domain-specific	domain-specific vocabulary.	domain-specific vocabulary	specific vocabulary from the	vocabulary from the text. This
vocabulary to inform		from the text, though terms	text to inform about or	vocabulary is integrated
about or explain the topic.		may be used incorrectly or	explain the topic.	smoothly into the child's
		added without context.		writing.
			Incorporates precise language	
			and domain-specific	
			vocabulary with a sense of	
			context, demonstrating that	
			the writer grasps the meaning	
			of the terms.	

e. Provide a concluding	Provides no sense of closure	Provides a concluding	Provides a concluding	Provides a concluding
statement or section	or provides a brief conclusion	statement, though not one that	statement or section related	statement or section related to
related to the information	to make clear the focus of the	relates directly to the	to the information or	the information or explanation
or explanation presented.	explanation	information or explanation	explanation presented.	presented and which attempts
		presented.		to provide comments which
			Provides a related conclusion.	follow from the information.
	i.e. "That's all the reasons."	i.e. "Wow, being an	i.e. "Danger and hunger are	i.e. "This makes me realize
		immigrant was hard."	reasons that the author gives	that immigrants had really
			to support the point that"	hard lives before they
				immigrated. If they didn't
				immigrate, who knows what
				would have happened to
				them!"