

**OPINION PROMPT RUBRIC: GRADE 1**

| <b>TRAITS</b>           | <b>BEGINNING (1)</b>  | <b>DEVELOPING (2)</b>   | <b>PROFICIENT (3)</b>   | <b>ACCOMPLISHED (4)</b>  |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Ideas</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> Topic is not evident<br><input type="checkbox"/> The writer's opinion is not evident<br><input type="checkbox"/> A reason is not evident   | <input type="checkbox"/> The topic is not clearly introduced but may be implied<br><input type="checkbox"/> The writer's opinion is not clearly stated but may be implied<br><input type="checkbox"/> A reason is not clearly stated but may be implied   | <input type="checkbox"/> The topic is introduced<br><input type="checkbox"/> The writer's opinion is stated<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writer includes a reason for the opinion  | <input type="checkbox"/> The topic is clearly stated in an introductory statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> The writer's opinion is carefully crafted<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writer includes 2 or more reasons for the opinion  |
| <b>Organization</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> Opening is not evident<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writing is not appropriately sequenced (topic, opinion, reason, and closure)<br><input type="checkbox"/> No sense of closure is evident   | <input type="checkbox"/> Opening is weak<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writing is mostly sequenced appropriately (topic, opinion, reason, and closure)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attempts closure but is poorly developed   | <input type="checkbox"/> Opening is recognizable<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writing is appropriately sequenced (topic, opinion, reason, and closure)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides some sense of closure  | <input type="checkbox"/> Opening is clearly stated and interesting<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writing is appropriately sequenced (topic, opinion, reasons, and closure) and includes linking words such as "because" and "also" to connect opinion and reasons<br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides a clear concluding statement or section |
| <b>Word Choice</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing includes a limited range of words often used incorrectly<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are not appropriate for purpose and audience<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes many overused words   | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing includes mostly appropriate words to convey meaning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Some words may not be appropriate for the audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some overused words  | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing includes a variety of appropriate words to convey meaning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are mostly appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Avoids overused words  | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing includes precise words to convey meaning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are consistently appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Avoids overused words and includes a variety of words to convey meaning  |
| <b>Sentence Fluency</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes many incomplete sentences relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes no variation in sentence length<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes no variation in sentence beginning  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes several incomplete sentences relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes little variation in sentence length<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes little variation in sentence beginnings  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes a few incomplete sentences relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some variation in sentence length<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some variation in sentence beginnings  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes all complete sentences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes much variation in sentence length<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes much variation in sentence beginnings   |
| <b>Voice</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> No personality evident in piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader feels no connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is not appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic and/or genre.   | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing begins to have personality<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader begins to feel a connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is somewhat appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic and/or genre  | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing has personality<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader feels a connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is mostly appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic and/or genre  | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing has personality and begs to be read aloud<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writer thoughtfully creates a personal connection with the reader<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is consistently appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic, and/or genre  |
| <b>Conventions</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and spells very few unknown words phonetically | <input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and spells some unknown words phonetically | <input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and spells unknown words phonetically | <input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and spells unknown words phonetically                               |

**OPINION PROMPT RUBRIC: GRADE 2**

| <b>TRAITS</b>           | <b>BEGINNING (1)</b>   | <b>DEVELOPING (2)</b>  | <b>PROFICIENT (3)</b>   | <b>ACCOMPLISHED (4)</b>  |
|-------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Ideas</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> Main idea may or may not be evident<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writing is unfocused and off topic<br><input type="checkbox"/> May or may not attempt to state an opinion or supply reasons   | <input type="checkbox"/> Main idea is weak or limited.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writing can be unfocused, off topic, or underdeveloped<br><input type="checkbox"/> States an opinion with simple reasons  | <input type="checkbox"/> Main idea is evident<br><input type="checkbox"/> Most of writing is focused and on topic<br><input type="checkbox"/> An opinion is stated and each reasons has a supportive detail   | <input type="checkbox"/> Main idea is easily identified and is carefully selected<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writing is focused and stays on topic throughout the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> An opinion is stated and convincing reasons are supplied to support opinion                       |
| <b>Organization</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing is unfocused and off topic<br><input type="checkbox"/> No sense of closure  | <input type="checkbox"/> Uses some language to connect opinion and reasons<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attempts to provide a concluding statement or section   | <input type="checkbox"/> Uses language to connect opinion and reasons (because, and, also)<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides concluding statement or section   | <input type="checkbox"/> Uses more sophisticated language to connect opinion and reasons (other than because, and, also)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides an interesting/creative concluding statement or section  |
| <b>Word Choice</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes a limited range of words often used incorrectly<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are not appropriate for and audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes many overused words  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes appropriate words to convey meaning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Some words may not be appropriate for the audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some overused words  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes carefully chosen words to convey meaning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are mostly appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Avoids overused words  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes carefully chosen, precise words to convey meaning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are consistently appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Avoids overused words and includes a variety of words to convey meaning                        |
| <b>Sentence Fluency</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes many incomplete sentence relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes no variation in sentence length<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes no variation in sentence beginnings<br><input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes several incomplete sentence relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes little variation in sentence length<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes little variation in sentence beginnings  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes a few incomplete sentence relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some variation in sentence length<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some variation in sentence beginnings   | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes all complete sentences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes much variation in sentence length<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes much variation in sentence beginnings   |
| <b>Voice</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> No evidence of writer's personality<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader feels no connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Beginning to show evidence of writer's personality<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader begins to feel a connection with the writer   | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes evidence of writer's personality<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader feels a connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes evidence of writer's personality and begs to be read aloud<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writer thoughtfully creates a personal connection with the reader<br><input type="checkbox"/>   |
| <b>Conventions</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and learned spelling patterns | <input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and learned spelling patterns | <input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and learned spelling patterns | <input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and learned spelling patterns |

**OPINION PROMPT RUBRIC GRADE 3**

| <b>TRAITS</b>           | <b>BEGINNING (1)</b>   | <b>DEVELOPING (2)</b>  | <b>PROFICIENT (3)</b>   | <b>ACCOMPLISHED (4)</b>   |
|-------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Ideas</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> Topic is unclear<br><input type="checkbox"/> Opinion is not evident<br><input type="checkbox"/> Does not include reasons to support the opinion   | <input type="checkbox"/> Topic is implied or vague<br><input type="checkbox"/> Opinion is unclear<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes reasons that may not support the opinion  | <input type="checkbox"/> Topic is clearly stated<br><input type="checkbox"/> Opinion is clear<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes reasons that support the opinion   | <input type="checkbox"/> Topic is clearly stated and well-articulated<br><input type="checkbox"/> Opinion is clear and carefully crafted<br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides reasons for point of view that are supported by facts and details   |
| <b>Organization</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> Opening ,topic, and/or opinion not evident<br><input type="checkbox"/> Illogical sequence with no linking words or phrases to connect opinion and reasons<br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides no sense of closure  | <input type="checkbox"/> Weak opening that introduces the topic and/or opinion<br><input type="checkbox"/> Weak or illogical sequence with few linking words or phrases to connect opinion or reasons<br><input type="checkbox"/> Attempts to provide a sense of closure   | <input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory opening that introduces the topic and states opinion<br><input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates a logical sequence that lists reasons with linking words or phrases to connect opinion and reasons (because, therefore, since, for example)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes a concluding statement or section that provides a sense of closure | <input type="checkbox"/> Well-developed opening that introduces topic and clearly states opinion<br><input type="checkbox"/> Clear demonstration of a logical sequence that lists reasons with carefully chosen linking words or phrases to connect opinion and reasons (because, therefore, since, for example) that unfolds naturally<br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides a concluding statement or section that has a convincing closure related to the opinion presented |
| <b>Word Choice</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes no precise words to convey meaning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Many words are appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes many overused words<br><input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes some precise words to convey meaning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Some words are appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some overused words<br><input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes precise words to convey meaning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are consistently appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Mostly avoids overused words<br><input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes carefully chosen, precise words to convey meaning<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are engaging and consistently appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Uses no overused words<br><input type="checkbox"/>   |
| <b>Sentence Fluency</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes many incomplete sentences relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes a limited variety of sentence types (simple, compound, and complex)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes few or no varied sentence beginnings and lengths                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes some incomplete sentences relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some variety of sentence types (simple, compound, and complex)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some varied sentences beginnings and lengths                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes a few incomplete sentences relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes a variety of sentence types (simple, compound, and complex)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes many varied sentences beginnings and lengths   | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes all complete sentences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Creatively uses a variety of sentence types (simple, compound, and complex)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes many varied sentences beginnings and lengths purposefully for effect  |
| <b>Voice</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> No evidence of writer's personality<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader feels no connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is not appropriate for the purpose, audience, and/or genre   | <input type="checkbox"/> Begins to show evidence of writer's personality<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader begins to feel a connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is somewhat appropriate for the purpose, audience, and/or genre  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes evidence of writer's personality<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader feels a connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is mostly appropriate for the purpose, audience, and/or genre  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes evidence of writer's personality and begs to be read aloud<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writer thoughtfully creates a personal connection with the reader<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is consistently appropriate for the purpose, audience, and/or genre  |
| <b>Conventions</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and spelling patterns and generalizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and spelling patterns and generalizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and spelling patterns and generalizations   | <input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate conventional spelling and spelling patterns and generalizations  |

**OPINION PROMPT RUBRIC GRADE 4**

| <b>TRAITS</b>           | <b>BEGINNING (1)</b>   | <b>DEVELOPING (2)</b>   | <b>PROFICIENT (3)</b>  | <b>ACCOMPLISHED (4)</b>  |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Ideas</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> No topic is stated<br><input type="checkbox"/> No opinion is stated<br><input type="checkbox"/> No reasons with supporting facts and details are presented  | <input type="checkbox"/> Topic is vague or inferred<br><input type="checkbox"/> Opinion is vague or inferred<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reasons for point of view that are weak and /or limited and facts and details are weak and/or limited  | <input type="checkbox"/> Topic is clearly introduced<br><input type="checkbox"/> Opinion is stated<br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides reasons for point of view that are supported by facts and details  | <input type="checkbox"/> Topic is well developed<br><input type="checkbox"/> Opinion is well articulated<br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides carefully chosen reasons for point of view that are compelling and supported by relevant facts and details   |
| <b>Organization</b>     | <input type="checkbox"/> Does not group related ideas to support the writer's purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Does not link opinions and reasons supporting point of view with transitional words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Does not provide a conclusion or conclusion is unrelated to opinion presented                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Grouping of some ideas may be confusing, detracting from writer's purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes links opinions and reasons supporting point of view with transitional words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writer provides a limited or weak conclusion related to the opinion           | <input type="checkbox"/> Most related ideas are grouped to support the writer's purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Links most opinions and reasons supporting point of view with transitional words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides a concluding statement or section related to the opinion presented              | <input type="checkbox"/> All related ideas are strategically grouped to support the writer's purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Always links opinions and reasons supporting point of view with transitional words and phrases (e.g., for instance, in order to, in addition)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Provides a carefully developed conclusion related to the opinion presented                                |
| <b>Word Choice</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes a limited range of words often used incorrectly<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are not appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes many overused words  | <input type="checkbox"/> Begins to use some concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey meaning including similes and metaphors<br><input type="checkbox"/> Some words may not be appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some overused words  | <input type="checkbox"/> Uses some concrete words and phrases and sensory details to convey meaning including similes and metaphors<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are mostly appropriate for audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Mostly avoids overused words   | <input type="checkbox"/> Consistently includes carefully chosen precise words and phrases and sensory details to convey meaning precisely including similes and/or metaphors<br><input type="checkbox"/> Words are consistent with audience and purpose<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writer avoids overused words; includes a variety of words to convey meaning  |
| <b>Sentence Fluency</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes limited use of simple, compound, & complex sentences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes limited use of sentence types (exclamatory, interrogative, imperative, declarative)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes many incomplete sentences relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes few or no varied sentence beginnings | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes some variety of simple, compound, & complex sentences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some variety of sentence types (exclamatory, interrogative, imperative, declarative)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some incomplete sentences relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes some varied sentence beginnings | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes a variety of simple, compound, & complex sentences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes a variety of sentence types (exclamatory, interrogative, imperative, declarative)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes a few incomplete sentences relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes many varied sentence beginnings | <input type="checkbox"/> Creatively uses variety of simple, compound, & complex sentences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Creatively uses a variety of sentence types (exclamatory, interrogative, imperative, declarative)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes all complete sentences relative to the length of the piece<br><input type="checkbox"/> Includes many varied sentence beginnings purposefully for effect |
| <b>Voice</b>            | <input type="checkbox"/> No evidence of writer's personality<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader feels no connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is not appropriate for the purpose and audience  | <input type="checkbox"/> Begins to show evidence of writer's personality and style<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader occasionally feels a connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is somewhat appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic, and/or genre  | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes evidence of writer's personality and style<br><input type="checkbox"/> Reader feels a personal connection with the writer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is mostly appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic, and/or genre   | <input type="checkbox"/> Includes evidence of writer's personality and style and begs to be read aloud<br><input type="checkbox"/> Writer thoughtfully creates a personal connection with the reader<br><input type="checkbox"/> Voice is consistently appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic, and/or genre  |
| <b>Conventions</b>      | <input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has multiple errors in grade level conventional spelling   | <input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has some errors in grade level conventional spelling  | <input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has few errors in grade level conventional spelling  | <input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate grammar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level appropriate punctuation and capitalization<br><input type="checkbox"/> Has no errors in grade level conventional spelling   |