The Pearl Writing Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Ideas	I develop ideas that are clear, original, and insightful. I anticipate questions and concerns that readers might have and address them thoroughly.	I develop my own ideas. I address questions that readers might have.	I can form basic ideas or state a position, such as agree or disagree, what I like and dislike, and so forth. I try to address questions that readers might have.	I need help to go beyond a summary of facts to ideas or positions. I do not consider questions that readers might have.
Organization	I organize my writing with: • Strong, inviting openings • Relevant supporting details • Creative sequencing • Thought-provoking conclusions	I organize my writing with: • Inviting openings • Supporting details • Order of events • Interesting conclusions	I organize my writing with: • A recognizable opening • Supporting details that may leave the reader confused • Unclear order of events • An undeveloped conclusion	I organize my writing with: • A missing or unclear opening • Randomly placed details • An order that makes the main idea difficult to understand • No resolution or closure
Voice and Word Choice	I use a style, tone, format, and genre appropriate to the reader. I use a variety of words that highlight my meaning and evoke strong images.	I use a style and tone appropriate to the reader. I use a variety of words that usually highlight my meaning and evoke clear images.	I am not necessarily aware of the reader when I write. I use words that work, but they are not effective in capturing the readers' interest.	I do not take the reader into account. I use everyday language and simple vocabulary to describe or discuss.

Conventions	I write with an excellent command of the conventions of language (spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and grammar). I self-edit, respond positively to peer and teacher review, and willingly revise and rewrite based on feedback.	I write using many of the conventions of language. I revise my writing to make my ideas or organization clearer. I consider some feedback when I revise and rewrite my work.	I write using some of the basic conventions of language. I review and revise my work for content and form with help. I do not take feedback into account when I revise.	I use the forms of spoken language in writing. I do not like to edit my work, even if the work is unclear.