**Smarter Balanced**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Traits** | **3** | **2** | **1** |
|  | The response: | The response: | The response: |
| **Focus and Details** | maintains adequate focus on the topic and has adequate supporting details | demonstrates an inconsistent focus on the topic and includes some supporting details, but may include extraneous or loosely related details.  | demonstrates little or no focus and few supporting details which may be inconsistent or interfere with the meaning of the text. |
| **Organization** | has a logical organizational pattern and conveys a sense of wholeness and completeness, although some lapses occur | shows an attempt at an organizational pattern, but exhibits little sense of wholeness and completeness | has little evidence of an organizational pattern or any sense of wholeness and completeness |
| **Transitions** | provides adequate transitions in an attempt to connect ideas | provides transitions which are weak or inconsistent | provides transitions which are poorly utilized, or fails to provide transitions |
| **Word Choice** | uses adequate language and appropriate word choices for intended audience and purpose | has a limited or predictable vocabulary which may not be appropriate for the intended audience or purpose | has a limited or inappropriate vocabulary for the intended audience and purpose |
| **Sentence Variation** | includes sentences or phrases where appropriate, that are somewhat varied in length and structure | shows little variety in sentence length and structure | has little or no variety in sentence length and structure |

**Simple Generic 3-point (Grades 3-11) Brief Writing Rubric**