Lab & Writing Rubric

	4 – Excellent	3 – Good	2 – Fair	1 – Unsatisfactory	0 – Incomplete
Ideas and Content	 Clearly states a main idea that is focused and interesting Shows excellent control of the topic Details clearly explain the main idea Shares new understandings 	 States a main idea and sticks the topic Shows knowledge of the topic Allows the reader to identify the main ideas and supporting details Makes connections 	 May be unclear and uses few appropriate details Has some control of the topic Details are not related to the ideas Makes obvious connections 	 Seems to have no purpose Ideas go off in several directions Does not include details 	Writer produces a blank sheet or fails to respond to the writing task
Organization	 Shows careful planning Smoothly ties ideas together The reader can move easily from beginning to end 	 Uses a previewing strategy Logically connects ideas Presents a thoughtful conclusion 	 May have trouble ordering facts May not consistently connect ideas May not present a logical conclusion 	 Shows an extreme lack of organization Presents disconnected ideas and details 	
Sentence Fluency	 Crafts sentence to flow smoothly Shows an extensive variety of lengths, beginnings, and patterns Uses simple and complex sentences effectively and creatively 	 Makes sentences flow so that they sound natural Varies the lengths, beginnings, and patters of sentences Uses both simple and complex sentences 	 Crafts understandable sentences Does not vary sentence length or pattern 	 Uses sentences that are incomplete Does not follow sentence patterns people use when they talk 	
Word Choice	 Words make the message very clear and interesting Uses words that are accurate, powerful, and meaningful 	 Words make the message clear Uses words that are accurate 	 Chooses words that get the message across in an ordinary way May overuse certain words and/or expressions 	 Has a difficult time finding the right words May repeat words or phrases over and over again 	
Conventions	 Accurately spells even difficult words Effectively uses punctuation Uses capitalization correctly Places paragraphs effectively Properly uses the rules of English 	 Accurately spells almost all words Uses end punctuation correctly Uses capitalization to begin all sentences Places paragraphs appropriately Uses subject and verbs correctly 	 Often has spelling errors Does not always use end punctuation Exhibits capitalization errors Places paragraphs incorrectly Uses subject and verbs that do not agree Shows little control of conventions 	 Has many spelling, capitalization, and punctuation errors Has some parts that may be impossible to follow or understand Places paragraphs incorrectly or does not use them at all Uses subject and verbs that do not go together 	Response may be illegible or incoherent