** Explaining and Informing in a News Story – Grade 7 Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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|  |  | **Fully meeting expectations, with enriched understanding (EU)** | **Fully meeting grade level expectations (FM)** | **Mostly meeting grade level expectations (MM)** | **Not yet meeting grade level expectations (NY)** |
| **Message/Meaning** | **Central idea**  | You established a captivating central idea or topic which was highly engaging and thoroughly developed and supported. | You established a central idea or topic which was focused, coherent and clear. | You needed some help developing a clear and focused topic. Before you begin your report, be clear about what you are trying to say and map out how you will stay focused. | Think about what you are really trying to say and how you can communicate this to others in a way that is clear and informative. Spend lots of time planning before you begin your article. |
| **Awareness of audience and purpose** | The audience and purpose have obviously been part of the planning. There is clear attention to developing the audience’s understanding and engagement in the topic. | There is a clear understanding of who will be responding to the report and why the information is being delivered. Potential misunderstandings have been addressed. | There is some lack of attention to the audience and purpose for the report. More thought needs to be given to how to deliver the intended message in the most impactful way.  | Who will be reading this report? Why are you creating this message? How can you capture your audience’s attention and give them the information they need? |
| **Organization and Coherence** | **Supporting Details (Facts, Details, Examples, Explanation)** | Your facts, details, examples, explanations enhance your message and engage your audience. | Your facts, details, examples, explanations clearly deliver your message.  | With help, your facts, details, examples, explanations deliver your message. Consider how to back up your main idea through extra information and details. | Explore what you are trying to say and how you can back that message up with some extra information. Spend some more time thinking about these things before you compose your text. |
| **Introductions and Conclusions** |  The introduction was highly engaging and the conclusion confidently summarized the most important points and left the reader with a feeling of closure. | The introduction established the purpose and topic and the conclusion clarified the main points. | More time needs to be spent developing the introduction and conclusion so they contribute more strongly to the overall argument. How can you really hook and maintain interest throughout? | Much more time should be spent considering the best ways to construct an informational text. How do you start and end? |
| **Logical sequence** | The order you chose supports and enhances your message and engages your audience.  | The order of your information clearly presents your message.  | With help, you were able to logically organize your thoughts. Spend a little more time thinking about how to communicate your message before you begin to compose your text. | How can you present your ideas so your audience understands them? What graphic organizers can help you with this? How can one idea move to the next? |
| **Text structures and features** | Your text structures and features not only support your message but enhance the reader’s engagement in the information presented. You have obviously carefully crafted your images, captions, titles and layout to capture attention and enhance the overall message. | You have used text structures and features appropriate for a news article. Your images, captions, headings and layout effectively support your overall message. | With some help, you were able to develop most text structures and features associated with a news story. How can you enhance these features to really create interest and clarity for your reader/ viewer? | What are the important parts of a news story? What images support your story? How can you organize your news? How will your caption explain your thoughts? How can a title capture interest? |
| **Style and Language Choices** | **Transitions** | You used transitions that were varied and engaging. The audience was carefully moved from one thought to the next. | Your ideas clearly transition from one to the next. You used appropriate transition words. | With help, you applied transitional words and phrases. Spend a little more time thinking about what transitional words you could use and how to increase the flow of your work. | How can you help your audience move from one idea to the next? What words and phrases can you use to transition from one thought to another? |
| **Clarity** | You used language that was unique, descriptive, and appropriate for audience and enhanced your message. | You used language that was clear, topic-related and helped to clarify the information you presented for your audience. | With some help, you used language that related to your topic and delivered your message clearly. Begin to think about how you can be more descriptive and create interest for your readers through the language you use. | What vocabulary relates to your topic? What words help you to move from one idea to the next (transitions)? How can you deliver your message interestingly? As you are composing your news article, really think about the words you will use. |

**Feedback:**