Standard/Skill	Level 4 - Advanced	Level 3 - Proficient	Level 2 - Developing	Level 1 - Beginning
L.1 & L.2 (11.11.1.1 & 11.11.2.2) Conventions ~Age appropriate, spelling, caps, punctuation, grammar, etc. Sentence Fluency ~Rhythm, flow, variety ~Active vs Passive, Consistent tense ~Avoid writing faux pas Word Choice ~Precision ~Effectiveness ~Figurative Language	Demonstrates command of all K-12 conventions, fluency, and word choice decisions. Exceptional writing. Visible editing. No errors.	Understand and utilize grade level conventions, fluency, and vocabulary. Know, understand, and utilize convention- related skills such as dangling modifier, parallel structure, verb consistency, etc. Limited errors.	Understand and utilize some conventions, fluency, and vocabulary. Know, understand, and utilize convention- related skills such as using complete sentences and varied sentence length. Some vocabulary may be misused. Errors may hinder readability.	Lack of understanding of conventions, fluency, and vocabulary. Poorly edited. Errors make readability difficult.
W.4 (11.7.4.4) Ideas & Content ~Main Theme ~Supporting Ideas Organization ~Structure ~Introduction ~Conclusion Thesis ~Clearly stated ~Proper format Presentation ~Neat ~Proper format Voice ~Personality ~Sense of audience	Writing extends beyond the specific assignment. Audience and purpose are more than just the classroom assignment (community members, school leaders, etc.). Assignment catered to audience and purpose.	Writing is clear, coherent, and development, organization, style, and format is appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience. Participation in all aspects of the writing process (plan, draft, revise, edit, rewrite, etc.).	Writing is murky and development, organization, style, and format may not be appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience. Participation in some aspects of the writing process (plan, draft, revise, edit, rewrite, etc.).	Writing is difficult to read. No sense of audience or purpose. Lack of organization. Limited participation in the writing process.
W.8 (11.7.8.8) Citations/Plagiarism ~Neat ~Proper format ~Avoid Plagiarism	Utilize sources beyond a normal, grade- appropriate level. Assess credibility of scholarly source, author, etc.	Assess strength and weaknesses of each source. Utilize only credible sources in writing.	All external sources and direct quotes properly cited. Some sources may not be credible.	Major gaps in format, missing citations, weak sources. Any instances of plagiarism – 0 (no chance to redo)
W.7 (11.7.7.7) Essay Style ~Research (self or other) ~Choosing appropriate topic	Accurately write about an issue affecting our community and utilize outside research.	No errors in understanding essay style and/or research findings.	Partial understanding essay style and/or research findings.	Major gaps in understanding essay style and/or research findings.

*Plagiarism is the practice of taking someone else's ideas and claiming they are your own. It is a punishable offence, which may result in failure of the assignment or may have other ramifications.

Essay Policies

- Unless prior arrangements are made, all essays are expected to be turned in, completed, on time. Essays not turned in on time will not be eligible for revisions and will receive a maximum of a 1 score in all categories. In this case, a conference with Ms. G. will be required if a student has a desire to raise their essay score.
- No grade will be released until the essay is redone, taking into account all suggested revisions and edits. All necessary conferences need to be completed before the revision due date. Essays not turned on time on the revision due date will receive a maximum of a 2 score in all categories. In this case, a conference with Ms. G. will be required if a student has a desire to raise their essay score.
- Until an essay is revised, the score will read as "MI" which means the score is missing and is included in the grade.
- If all essays (and revisions) are completed and turned in on time, students will have the opportunity to drop lowest score at the end of the grading period from the grading average.