

Great Teachers Contest Scoring Rubric

Student Name: _____

Category	4	3	2	1
Introduction	First paragraph has a “grabber” or catchy beginning.	First paragraph has a weak “grabber.”	A catchy beginning was attempted but was confusing	No attempt was made to catch the reader’s attention in the first paragraph.
Focus on Assigned Topic	The entire essay is related to the contest topic and allows the reader to understand more about the topic.	Most of the essay is related to the contest topic. The essay wanders off at some point, but the reader can still learn something about the topic.	Some of the essay is related to the contest topic, but a reader doesn’t learn much about the topic.	No attempt has been made to relate the essay to the assigned topic.
Organization	The essay is very well organized. One idea follows another in a logical sequence with clear transitions.	The essay is pretty well organized. One idea may seem out of place. Clear transitions are used.	The essay is a little hard to follow. The transitions are sometimes not clear.	Ideas seem to be randomly arranged.
Creativity	The essay contains many creative ideas and references. The author has really used his imagination.	The essay contains a few creative ideas and/or descriptions, and the author has used his imagination some.	The essay contains creative details and/or descriptions, but they distract from the essay. The author tried to use imagination.	There is little evidence of creativity in the essay. The author doesn’t seem to use much imagination.
Neatness/Grammar	The essay is readable, clean, neat and attractive. The author took great pride in it.	The essay is readable, neat and attractive. It may have one or two minor errors, but the author took some pride in it.	The essay is readable, but it looks like it might have been done in a hurry. There are 2-3 errors.	The essay is not attractive. It looks like the author didn’t care what it looked like. There are more than 3 errors in it.

Score:

Introduction _____

Focus on Assigned Topic _____

Organization _____

Creativity _____

Neatness/Grammar _____

Total _____

Evaluated by: _____