**Common Core GPS Informational-Explanatory Essay Rubric**

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| **Domain and Standard** | **Exceeds – 3** | **Meets – 2** | **Does Not Meet - 1** | **Total Score** |
| **Ideas** | Introduces a topic; organizes ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; Develops the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the topic.  **40 points** | Introduces a topic; organize to make important connections and distinctions; The topic has relevant and sufficient facts, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the topic.  **35 points** | Does not introduce the topic; Essay is disorganized and does not make important connections and distinctions; Topic does not contain relevant facts, definitions, or details as support. The information and examples are inappropriate or insufficient to the topic.  **25 Points** |  |
| **Organization** | Uses appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text. Provides a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented.  **20 Points** | Uses appropriate transitions to link the major sections of the text. Provides a concluding statement that follows from and supports some of the information or explanation presented.  **18 Points** | Does not use appropriate transitions to link the major sections of the text. No concluding statement or section is included.  **10 Points** |  |
| **Style** | Uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic. Establishes and maintains a formal style and objective tone while they are writing.  **15 Points** | Uses domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic. Establishes and inconsistently maintains a formal style. Elements of subjectivity exist in the tone while they are writing.  **12 Points** | Uses inappropriate language and unspecific vocabulary to that does not manage the complexity of the topic. Uses an informal style and subjective tone throughout the essay.  **5 Points** |  |
| **Conventions** | Demonstrates consistent command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.  Contains the following in accurate MLA format: lead-ins, in-text citations are correctly formatted. All quotations are embedded in the paragraph with introductory words before the quotation, or following the quotation, to make the quotation flow with the text. Citation page is titled Works Cited. Sources are typed with hanging indents; correct headers on every page; page double-spaced; margins 1". All citations contain all required information in the right sequence.  **25 Points** | Demonstrates general command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. Essay has minor errors in English conventions that do not interfere with meaning and comprehension.  MLA in-text citations formatting have been used accurately with minor errors. Most quotations are framed correctly in the paragraphs.  Pages typed with few errors in margins, indentation, spacing, Works Cited title and headers. Most citations contain required information. Some omissions, extra information, and/or improper sequence.  **20 Points** | Demonstrates minimal command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing. Essay has significant errors in English conventions that interfere with meaning and comprehension.  Most or all MLA citations lack proper formatting or are missing entirely or do not correspond with Works Cited page. All quotations are framed incorrectly or are missing. Pages hardly resemble proper format in terms of margins, double-spacing, indentation, Works Cited title and headers. All or most citations have inaccurate, missing, or extra information and/or are written out of sequence.  **15 Points** |  |