Adapted NYS 5^{tn} and 6^{tn} Grade Writing Rubric

Score	Content	Evidence	Organization	Grammar
4	 I can introduce a topic that is compelling and is clearly and logically connected to the task/question. I can write an essay that shows that I read and understood the text very well. I can include inferences in my explanations. 	 I can write an essay that has a developed topic with relevant well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information from the text. I can use that information throughout my essay and it is varied. 	 I can write an essay with clear organization and the skillful use of varied and appropriate transitions to enhance my meaning so that my writing is unified and whole. I can use a formal style and use grade and subject-appropriate sophisticated language. I can write a compelling conclusion that wraps up the topic of my essay. 	 I can write an essay that uses grade-appropriate grammar. I can write an essay that has few spelling, grammar, punctuation, or capitalization errors.
3	 I can introduce a topic that is connected to the task/question. I can write an essay that shows that I read and understood the text well. 	 I can write an essay that has a developed topic with relevant facts, definitions, details, quotations, or other information from the text. I can use that information throughout my essay but it is not varied. 	 I can write an essay with clear organization and varied and appropriate transitions so that my writing is unified and whole. I can use a formal style and use grade and subject-appropriate language. I can write a conclusion that wraps up the topic of my essay. 	 I can write an essay that uses grade-appropriate grammar. I can write an essay that has occasional spelling, grammar, punctuation, or capitalization errors but they do not make my writing hard to read.
2	 I can introduce a topic that is sort of connected to the task/question. I can write an essay that shows that I read and understood the text. 	• I can write an essay that is partially developed and has some evidence from the text, but not all the evidence relates to the task/question.	 I can write an essay with clear organization and varied and appropriate transitions so that my writing is unified and whole. I do not use a formal style or grade and subject-appropriate language. I write a conclusion that generally follows the topic of my writing. 	 I can write an essay that uses almost grade-appropriate grammar. I have some spelling, grammar, punctuation, or capitalization errors that sometimes make my writing hard to read.
1	 My writing introduces a topic that is not connected to the task/question. My writing shows that I understood the text a tiny bit. 	 My writing attempts to use some evidence but that evidence does not relate to the task/question. 	 I attempt to use organization with some transitions. I do not use a formal style and do not use grade and subject-appropriate language. I write a conclusion that does not wrap up my writing. 	 I do not use grade-appropriate grammar. I have many spelling, grammar, punctuation, or capitalization errors that make my writing hard to read.
0	 My writing shows that I did not understand the task/question or the text. 	• My writing did not include any evidence that relates to the task/question.	 My writing is not organized. I use language that does not make sense. I do not write a conclusion. 	• I do not use appropriate grammar. People are not able to read my writing.