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| **CCSS INFORMATIVE/ EXPLANATORY** | Write **INFORMATIVE/EXPLANATORY TEXTS** to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content. |

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|  | **Grade 9** | **Grade 10**: everything in Grade 9, plus below | **Grade 11-12** everything in Grade 9 & 10, plus below |
| FOCUS | * **Introduce a topic** * **Organize complex ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions** | When useful to aiding comprehension, include   * formatting (e.g., headings) * graphics (e.g., figures, tables) | * Organize a complex ideas, concepts, and information **so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole.** * When useful in aiding comprehension, **include multimedia elements** |
| DEVELOPMENT | Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient   * facts * concrete details * quotations   Provide a concluding statement/section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulation implications or the significance of the topic). | Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient   * **extended definitions**   Provide a concluding statement/section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulation implications or the significance of the topic). | Develop the topic **thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant** facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or **other information and examples appropriate to the audience’s knowledge of the topic.**  Provide a concluding statement/section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulation implications or the significance of the topic). |
| COHESION | Use appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts. | Use appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts. | Use appropriate and varied transitions **and syntax** to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts. |
| LANGUAGE & STYLE | * + Use precise language to manage the complexity of the topic.   + Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they’re writing. | * + Use precise language **and domain-specific vocabulary** to manage the complexity of the topic.   + Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they’re writing. | * + Use precise language, domain-specific vocabulary, **and techniques such as metaphor, simile, and analogy to manage the complexity of the topic**.   + Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they’re writing. |

Sample informative/explanatory prompts and annotated student responses can be found online at Achieve the Core: <http://achievethecore.org/page/504/common-core-informative-explanatory-writing-list-pg>