

Name: _____ Date: _____

Opinion Writing Checklist

	Grade 4	NOT YET	STARTING TO	YES!
	Structure			
Overall	I made a claim about a topic or a text and tried to support my reasons.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lead	I wrote a few sentences to hook my readers, perhaps by asking a question, explaining why the topic mattered, telling a surprising fact, or giving background information.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I stated my claim.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transitions	I used words and phrases to glue parts of my piece together. I used phrases such as <i>for example</i> , <i>another example</i> , <i>one time</i> , and <i>for instance</i> to show when I was shifting from saying reasons to giving evidence and <i>in addition to</i> , <i>also</i> , and <i>another</i> to show when I wanted to make a new point.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ending	I wrote an ending for my piece in which I restated and reflected on my claim, perhaps suggesting an action or response based on what I had written.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organization	I separated sections of information using paragraphs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Development			
Elaboration	I gave reasons to support my opinion. I chose the reasons to convince my readers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I included examples and information to support my reasons, perhaps from a text, my knowledge, or my life.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Craft	I made deliberate word choices to convince my readers, perhaps by emphasizing or repeating words that would make my readers feel emotions.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If it felt right to do so, I chose precise details and facts to help make my points and used figurative language to draw the readers into my line of thought.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I made choices about which evidence was best to include or not include to support my points.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I used a convincing tone.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Language Conventions			
Spelling	I used what I know about word families and spelling rules to help me spell and edit. I used the word wall and dictionaries to help me when needed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Punctuation	When writing long complex sentences, I used commas to make them clear and correct.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I used periods to fix my run-on sentences.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>