Cardinal Ambrozic C.S.S.

OSSLT Preparation

Session #1

Long Writing Task:
The News Report
The Task

- You will be required to write a news report based on a picture and headline provided.
- You will write a one-page report on the event.
- Your audience is an adult reader of a newspaper.
It will look like this:

**Headline and Picture**

*Students Win Competition*

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**Written Instructions**

**Task:**
Write a news report in the *Answer Booklet* based on the headline and picture above.

- You will have to make up the facts and information to answer some or all of the following questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
- You must relate your news report to both the headline and the picture.

**Purpose and Audience:**
to report on an event for the readers of a newspaper

**Length:**
The lined space provided in the *Answer Booklet* for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.
A news report is an **objective**, **factual** report about an **event**.

- **Objective**: does not express personal opinions, uses the third person point of view (he, she, it, they)
- **Factual**: reports facts, information, statistics, eye witness accounts
- **Event**: about something that has recently happened
A news report also follows a formula.

- Uses the inverted pyramid style
- Begins with the most important information - 5Ws, 1H
- Then additional, less important details are added
- Quotes are added to include the perspective of someone who saw or was involved in the event
How to write the news report:

1. Look at the headline and brainstorm what the report will be about. Make notes of who, what, when, where, why and how.

2. Draw a large cross over the picture. Look in each quadrant and make notes that connect with your earlier ideas.
How to write the news report:

3. Make up all of the facts and information that you will use in your report. Give first and last names, specific locations and details about the events.

4. Write the report in short paragraphs of 2-3 sentences. Use the past tense.
How to write the news report:

5. Include 1 or 2 quotations from people who were involved in the event or who witnessed it.

6. Proof-read your completed work.
How will I be graded?

One rubric will be used for Topic Development.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blank</td>
<td>The page is blank with nothing written or drawn in the space provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illegible</td>
<td>The response is illegible or irrelevant to the prompt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off topic</td>
<td>The response is off topic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code 10</td>
<td>The response is related to headline and/or photo but is not a news report. <strong>OR</strong> The response is a news report related to the headline and/or photo. It identifies an event, but provides no supporting details, or provides details that are unrelated to the event. There is no evidence of organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code 20</td>
<td>The response is related to headline and/or photo but only partly in the form of a news report. <strong>OR</strong> The response is a news report related to the headline and/or photo, but the focus on an event is unclear or inconsistent. There are insufficient supporting details: too few or repetitious. There is limited evidence of organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code 30</td>
<td>The response is a news report related to the headline and photo with a clear focus on an event. There are insufficient and/or vague supporting details or the connection of the details to the event is not always clear. There is evidence of organization, but lapses distract from the overall communication.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code 40</td>
<td>The response is a news report related to the headline and photo with a clear and consistent focus on an event. There are sufficient supporting details, however, only some are specific. The organization is mechanical and any lapses do not distract from the overall communication.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code 50</td>
<td>The response is a news report related to the headline and photo with a clear and consistent focus on an event. There are sufficient specific supporting details to develop the news report. The organization is logical.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code 60</td>
<td>The response is a news report related to the headline and photo with a clear and consistent focus on an event. There are sufficient specific supporting details, which are thoughtfully chosen to develop the news report. The organization is coherent demonstrating a thoughtful progression of ideas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How will I be graded?

A second rubric will be used for Conventions.

This is where you want to be.
Example from Previous OSSLT

Students Participate in Important Election
There are sufficient specific supporting details, thoughtfully chosen. All 5Ws are answered with specific information and developed with thoughtful details (e.g., invited by school's "I Can" club, quotations showing that students were inspired and that develop the focus, description of bracelet routine).

Organization is coherent demonstrating a thoughtful progression of ideas.

The body paragraphs develop ideas coherently and smoothly. Each quotation is placed effectively to support the idea in the previous paragraph.
Students Participate in Important Elections

On April 23, 2013, grade (6) students of ______school name______ are having an election to determine class president as a part of their civics class to really learn about government.

Two students from the class are the candidates for the election. Brooke promises that she will listen to everyone's ideas and make sure that everyone gets the help they need. Lucas promises more field trips, pizza lunches, and days off. "I know what the students want because I am a student and once I am class president, I will be able to give it to them," says Scott.

"This is a chance for the students to really get into government and politics. We try to keep it as realistic as the actual elections. The students have made posters, created their campaign along with their platforms and also speeches," explains Ms. Smith, school teacher.

The elections will take place on April 23, 2013 in Ms. Smith's classroom. The students are extremely anxious.

Annotation:
Control of conventions is evident in sentence structure and punctuation. Errors that are typical of a first draft (e.g., missing "the" in to determine class president; spelling errors field, candidates) do not undermine the overall control of conventions.
Watch this ‘think-aloud’:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8_NmVtnEEA8
Your Turn: Write a News Report

Guest speaker’s message inspires students

Task:
Write a news report in the Answer Booklet based on the headline and picture above.
- You will have to make up the facts and information to answer some or all of the following questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
- You must relate your news report to both the headline and the picture.

Purpose and Audience:
to report on an event for the readers of a newspaper

Length:
The lined space provided in the Answer Booklet for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.

When you are finished, check back to compare your news article with the exemplars provided.
The response is a news report related to the headline and photo with a clear and consistent focus on an event. There are sufficient specific supporting details, which are thoughtfully chosen to develop the news report. The organization is coherent demonstrating a thoughtful progression of ideas.

There are sufficient specific supporting details, thoughtfully chosen. All 5Ws are answered with specific information and developed with thoughtful details (e.g., invited by school’s “I Can” club, quotations showing that students were inspired and that develop the focus, description of bracelet routine).

Organization is coherent demonstrating a thoughtful progression of ideas.

The body paragraphs develop ideas coherently and smoothly. Each quotation is placed effectively to support the idea in the previous paragraph.
Control of conventions is evident in written work. Evidence of control is seen in the use of commas with phrases, correct use of punctuation around quotations and the correct use of the apostrophe.