

## Queen of Angels Catholic School

### Language Arts: Gr.8

#### Writing

##### FOCUS- Write with a sharp controlled focus

- Able to create a controlling point or theme about a single topic with awareness of audience
- Able to present a controlling point presented as a position and made through a clear, thoughtful, and substantiated argument
- Able to create a focus statement about a single topic that introduces examples to support the topic
- Able to recognize the thesis statement of a given informational piece
- Able to write a thesis statement for an informational topic

##### CONTENT – write using well-developed content appropriate for the topic

- Able to create a strong ,sequential story line with details that address an experience with narrative elements
- Able to craft a problem that will be solved in the narrative piece
- Able to make the setting relevant throughout the entire story
- Able to develop a change in character from the beginning of the piece to the end
- Able to elaborate on a stated position with precise and relevant evidence
- Able to employ persuasive strategies
- Able to thoroughly elaborate on the focus statement with effective examples presented in an organized manner
- Able to follow the formula for the 5 paragraph essay

##### ORGANIZATION – write with controlled and/or subtle organization

- Able to create a pattern of events that involve the reader while skillfully crafting a beginning, middle, and end
- Able to create a conflict based on the problem and build it to a climax
- Able to identify the three types of conflict and distribute conflict effectively throughout the narrative
- Able to bring events of narrative to a turning point and then resolution
- Able to use logical order and transitions to develop a position
- Able to arrange example or arguments to support or defend a position in order of importance
- Able to use logical order and transitions to develop a controlling idea
- Able to connect examples to focus statement with supporting details
- Able to create and label note cards with one fact per card
- Able to eliminate information that does not fit under the thesis statement
- Able to accurately cite information within the body of the paper
- Able to paraphrase an author's words
- Able to follow the correct format to create a works cited page of an information paper
- Able to develop an outline from the topics identified on note cards
- Able to write topic sentences from the roman numerals of outline and use information under each roman numeral to support topic sentence

##### STYLE – write with a command of stylistic aspects of composition

- Able to maintain precise control of language, literary devices, and sentence structure to maintain a consistent point of view throughout the narrative
- Able to use a mixture of dialogue and narration in composition
- Able to maintain precise control of language, sentence structure, and order to create a tone of persuasion
- Able to restate position at end of persuasive piece and summarize
- Able to maintain precise control of language, sentence structure, and form that creates an informational tone
- Able to create generalizations from research and support with cited evidence in body of paper
- Able to bring informational piece to a close by summarizing