

PCS-CCSS Writing Rubric Grade 3—Opinion

	NS (0)	Does Not Meet (1)	Almost Meets (2)	Meets (3)	Exceeds (4)
Opinion Focus	No evidence	Opinion on topics or texts is unclear Opinion is confusing or is inconsistent	Writes an opinion paper on topics with little support of point of view Opinion is focused but ineffectively maintained.	Writes an opinion paper on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons Opinion is clearly stated and generally maintained.	Writes an opinion paper on topics or texts with reasons and information that strongly support the point of view Opinion is clearly stated, focused and strongly maintained.
Organization	No evidence	Lacks organizational structure missing introduction and/or conclusion Contains few or no transitions No progression of ideas	Weak organizational structure, introduction and conclusion Uses inconsistent transitions with little variety Uneven progression of ideas	Adequate organizational structure, introduction and conclusion Uses a variety of transitional phrases to move reader from one detail to the next Adequate progression of ideas	Meets all expectations set forth in (3) Clear and effective organizational structure, introduction and conclusion Uses transitional phrases with purpose and variety for strong progression of ideas
Elaboration	No evidence	Minimal elaboration using little or no support/evidence No evidence from sources or incorrect	Inconsistent elaboration using little support/evidence for the writer's opinion that includes partial use of sources, facts, and details Weak evidence from sources if present	Adequate elaboration using support/evidence for the writer's opinion that includes the use of sources, facts, and details Some evidence from sources integrated with general citations	Effective elaboration which uses convincing support/evidence for the writer's opinion that includes the use of sources, facts, and details Evidence from sources is relevant and integrated smoothly
Language and Vocabulary	No evidence	Language and vocabulary are confusing or vague or are inappropriate for the audience and purpose Limited use of grade appropriate ¹ language	Language and vocabulary are used with little clarity or may be inappropriate for the audience and purpose Weak use of grade appropriate ¹ (sensory, concrete)	Adequate use of language and vocabulary (domain specific) for the audience and purpose Adequate use of grade appropriate ¹ sensory, concrete, and figurative language	Effective use of language and vocabulary (domain specific) for the audience and purpose Effective use of grade appropriate ¹ sensory, concrete, and figurative language
Conventions	No evidence	Demonstrate a lack of command of grade level ¹ conventions Contains frequent and severe errors which impact meaning	Demonstrate a partial command of grade level ¹ conventions Contains frequent errors in usage that may confuse reader or impact meaning	Demonstrate an adequate command of grade level ¹ conventions Some errors in usage and sentence formation, but no systematic pattern of errors	Demonstrates an effective and consistent use of grade level ¹ conventions Few, if any errors

¹ See CCSS Language Standard