**Informational / Explanatory Essay Rubric**

\_\_\_\_\_/**2** **Introduction**

* 1-2 sentence **summary** of the essay topic
* **Author**(s) and **title**(s)
* Ends with a clear **thesis** (a claim which answers the prompt).

\_\_\_\_\_/**4 RACE Paragraph 1**

* Begins with an effective topic sentence.
* Provides context to introduce the quote.
* Cites appropriate quote as evidence.
* Clearly explains how the quote demonstrates the idea in the paragraph and how the paragraph supports the overall claim.
* Comes to a satisfying close with a clincher.

\_\_\_\_\_**/4** **RACE Paragraph 2**

* Begins with an effective topic sentence.
* Provides context to introduce the quote.
* Cites appropriate quote as evidence.
* Clearly explains how the quote demonstrates the idea in the paragraph and how the paragraph supports the overall claim.
* Comes to a satisfying close with a clincher.

\_\_\_\_\_/**4** **RACE Paragraph 3**

* Begins with an effective topic sentence.
* Provides context to introduce the quote.
* Cites appropriate quote as evidence.
* Clearly explains how the quote demonstrates the idea in the paragraph and how the paragraph supports the overall claim.
* Comes to a satisfying close with a clincher.

\_\_\_\_\_/**2 Conclusion**

* Restates the thesis
* Brings the essay to a satisfying close by clearly summarizing how all sections work together to demonstrate the overall topic.

\_\_\_\_\_/**2** **Unity and Cohesion**

* Clear, logical flow
* Effective use of **transitions** (Underline 3 transitions- used properly)
* Thesis clearly addresses the prompt / body paragraphs clearly support the thesis

\_\_\_\_\_/**2** **Mechanics**

* Correct spelling and grammar
* Strong sentence structure, syntax, and diction

**Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_/20**