Unit 1: Helping Your Community	Write a paragraph about a community project.	4	3	2	1
Student name:  Date:	<ul> <li>Content</li> <li>Includes the name of the project.</li> <li>Explains the problem it addresses.</li> <li>Includes three things people do on the project.</li> <li>Explains how the project helps the problem.</li> </ul>				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	Organization  Follows a logical organization.  Has a clear concluding sentence.				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	<ul> <li>Mechanics and Style</li> <li>Uses a capital letter at the beginning of each sentence and ending punctuation at the end.</li> <li>Uses the simple present correctly.</li> <li>Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.</li> <li>Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.</li> </ul>				
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4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	<ul> <li>Mechanics and Style</li> <li>Uses a capital letter at the beginning of each sentence and ending punctuation at the end.</li> <li>Uses the simple present correctly.</li> <li>Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.</li> <li>Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.</li> </ul>				

Unit 2: The Power of Friendship	Write a paragraph about a friend you admire.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	<ul> <li>Content</li> <li>Clearly states why the person is admired.</li> <li>Describes the friend's appearance, personality, and actions.</li> </ul>				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	Organization     Has a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence.     Supports opinions with reasons.     Has a concluding sentence which states the main idea in different words.				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	Mechanics and Style     Uses synonyms for common adjectives to make the writing more interesting.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				

Unit 2: The Power of Friendship	Write a paragraph about a friend you admire.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	<ul> <li>Content</li> <li>Clearly states why the person is admired.</li> <li>Describes the friend's appearance, personality, and actions.</li> </ul>				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	Organization  Has a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence.  Supports opinions with reasons.  Has a concluding sentence which states the main idea in different words.				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	Mechanics and Style     Uses synonyms for common adjectives to make the writing more interesting.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				

Unit 3: Music to the Ears	Write a paragraph about a song.	4	3	2	1
Student name:  Date:  Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	Content Describes the music and explains its impact on feelings. Includes details about the music (instruments, feelings, events, etc.).				
	Organization     Has a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence.     Has supporting sentences that give more information about the topic and the main idea.				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	Mechanics and Style     Has a good title.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				
Unit 3: Music to the Ears	Write a paragraph about a song.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	Content				

Unit 3: Music to the Ears	Write a paragraph about a song.	4	3	2	1
Student name:  Date:	Describes the music and explains its impact on feelings.     Includes details about the music (instruments, feelings, events, etc.).				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	Organization  Has a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence.  Has supporting sentences that give more information about the topic and the main idea.				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	Mechanics and Style     Has a good title.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				

Unit 4: Citizen Science	Write a paragraph about a citizen science project.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	Content Clearly states the purpose of the project. Clearly states the steps in the process.				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	Organization     Has a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence.     Has a concluding sentence that clearly states what the student learned from the project.				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	Mechanics and Style     Is indented.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				

Unit 4: Citizen Science	Write a paragraph about a citizen science project.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	<ul> <li>Content</li> <li>Clearly states the purpose of the project.</li> <li>Clearly states the steps in the process.</li> </ul>				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	Organization     Has a topic sentence, supporting sentences, and a concluding sentence.     Has a concluding sentence that clearly states what the student learned from the project.				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory	Mechanics and Style     Is indented.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				
1 = Needs improvement					

Unit 5: Food Advertising	Write a paragraph about food.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	Content Includes a strong opinion. Uses good reasons to support this opinion.				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	<ul> <li>Organization</li> <li>Has a topic sentence which includes a topic and an opinion.</li> <li>Has two supporting ideas and details for each.</li> <li>Supports opinions with reasons.</li> <li>Has a concluding sentence which states the main idea in different words, gives the writer's opinion, or makes a suggestion.</li> </ul>				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	Mechanics and Style     Includes the writer's own words, or uses quotations if the ideas come from another text.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				

Unit 5: Food Advertising	Write a paragraph about food.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	<ul> <li>Content</li> <li>Includes a strong opinion.</li> <li>Uses good reasons to support this opinion.</li> </ul>				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	<ul> <li>Organization</li> <li>Has a topic sentence which includes a topic and an opinion.</li> <li>Has two supporting ideas and details for each.</li> <li>Supports opinions with reasons.</li> <li>Has a concluding sentence which states the main idea in different words, gives the writer's opinion, or makes a suggestion.</li> </ul>				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	Mechanics and Style     Includes the writer's own words, or uses quotations if the ideas come from another text.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				

Unit 6: The Wonders of Nature	Describe a graph or chart about nature.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	Content Clearly describes the most important point of the graphic. Includes interesting details.				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.  4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	Organization Describes data clearly (introduces the subject, describes the most important point or overall trend, and gives a few interesting details with numbers). Follows a logical organization.  Mechanics and Style Uses different ways to describe numbers or percentages. Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly. Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				

Unit 6: The Wonders of Nature	Describe a graph or chart about nature.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	Content Clearly describes the most important point of the graphic. Includes interesting details.				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	Organization     Describes data clearly (introduces the subject, describes the most important point or overall trend, and gives a few interesting details with numbers).     Follows a logical organization.				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory	Mechanics and Style     Uses different ways to describe numbers or percentages.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				
1 = Needs improvement					

Unit 7: Learning from Failure	Write a paragraph about learning from failure.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	Describes a well-chosen failure.     Clearly describes the lesson learned.				
Date:  Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or	Organization     Is written coherently.     Follows a logical organization (title, topic sentence, background information, story, lessons learned, and concluding sentence).				
use the space for more explanation.  4 = Excellent  3 = Good  2 = Satisfactory	Mechanics and Style     Uses transition words and phrases to make ideas easier to understand.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				
1 = Needs improvement					

Unit 7: Learning from Failure	Write a paragraph about learning from failure.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	Content     Describes a well-chosen failure.     Clearly describes the lesson learned.				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or	Organization     Is written coherently.     Follows a logical organization (title, topic sentence, background information, story, lessons learned, and concluding sentence).				
use the space for more explanation.  4 = Excellent  3 = Good  2 = Satisfactory	Mechanics and Style     Uses transition words and phrases to make ideas easier to understand.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				
1 = Needs improvement					

Unit 8: Sending the Right Message	Write a formal email.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	<ul> <li>Content</li> <li>Represents a good reason to write to the teacher.</li> <li>Is brief and relevant.</li> </ul>				
Use this rubric to assess the unit task. You can add other aspects you'd like to assess at the bottom of the rubric, or use the space for more explanation.	Organization     Asks a question, schedules a meeting, or is written to submit an assignment.     Follows a logical organization (subject, greeting, body, concluding sentence, and closing).				
4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	Mechanics and Style     Has a formal tone and formal language.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				

Unit 8: Sending the Right Message	Write a formal email.	4	3	2	1
Student name:	<ul> <li>Content</li> <li>Represents a good reason to write to the teacher.</li> <li>Is brief and relevant.</li> </ul>				
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4 = Excellent 3 = Good 2 = Satisfactory 1 = Needs improvement	Mechanics and Style     Has a formal tone and formal language.     Varies sentence lengths and connects ideas smoothly.     Uses a variety of words, including words taught in the unit.				