**On-Demand Writing Task**

**Benchmark 2**

**Directions for Administration – Grade 6**

The ELA on-demand writing task is to be administered in one sitting, approximately 45-60 minutes, within the second benchmark window of February 22 – April 1, 2016. Please input your students’ scores into Illuminate by April 15, 2016. Please input two scores per student: one for the informative/explanatory writing piece and one for language use and conventions (see rubric).

**This on-demand task is meant to assess what students understand about informative/explanatory writing.**

* You may read the task out loud to your students.
* You may clarify for your students that this is an informational writing task (not a narrative or an argument) by referring to a familiar informational/mentor text as an example.
* Students may refer to and quote from texts previously studied in class about the topic they are writing about.
* You may not assist students.
* Students may engage in whatever pre-drafting strategies they choose including creating and using their own graphic organizer.
* Students may not use dictionaries.

**A standards-based rubric is provided. A collaborative scoring session is encouraged.**

**NOTE:** This assessment is aligned to the revised curriculum maps and focuses on that which was addressed in the unit(s) taught in the second trimester. The benchmark assessments are designed to provide useful information on student learning to inform instructional practice.

**Elementary: Timeline for Benchmark Assessments**

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| **Dates** | **Benchmark 1**  November 9, 2015 - December 4, 2015 | **Benchmark 2**  **Benchmark 1 for Grade 1**  February 22, 2016 -  April 1, 2016 | **Benchmark 3**  **Benchmark 2 for Grade 1**  May 9, 2016 -  June 3, 2016 |
| **Grade Levels Assessed** | Grades 2 - 6 | Grades 1 - 6 | Required for Grade 1  Optional for Grade 2 -6 |
| **Scores of hand scored items entered into Illuminate by:** | December 18, 2015 | April 15, 2016 | June 16, 2016 |