**On-Demand Writing Task**

**Benchmark 1**

**Directions for Administration – Grade 7-11**

***After your informational/explanatory unit, where students had time for deep study, inquiry, and practice, this on-demand writing task is meant to assess what students have internalized about informational/explanatory writing.***

The on-demand writing task is intentionally broad so that you can adapt it to fit any content. *You may choose to create your own prompt* to guide your students’ writing.

The on-demand writing task is to be administered in one sitting, approximately 45-60 minutes, within the first benchmark window of November 7- December 9, 2016 (the window includes scoring and entering scores). Please input two scores per student: one for their informative/explanatory writing and one for language use and conventions (see rubric).

* You may read the task out loud to your students.
* You may clarify for your students that this is an informational/explanatory writing task (not a narrative or opinion) 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. The benchmark assessments are designed to provide useful information on student learning to inform instructional practice.