

Key to Sorting Activity

<p style="text-align: center;">Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relies on technical, precise vocabulary. • Accuracy and exactness are favored over elaboration and craft. • Verbs like <i>demonstrate</i> are often changed into nouns like <i>demonstration</i>. • Observations are often written in bullet points, lists, or phrases. • Sentence fragments or questions may be turned into complete thoughts only if the goal is to communicate. • Passive voice is favored, such as “The result was determined to be” in place of active voice used in ELA classes: “I determined that...” • Words may be minimal, used in conjunction with illustrations, charts, drawings, or data. • Communication of ideas is clear and often systematic. • Correctness is paramount, but “over-claiming” is suspect. • The writer wanders when describing natural phenomena or exploring problems with no definition solution. 	<p style="text-align: center;">History/Social Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This discipline writes in response journals about current events, topics of study, or primary-based documents. • Writers conduct research on topics to expand and communicate new learning. • Events from multiple sources are synthesized and summarized. • Events and writing from certain time periods are investigated. • Students might produce biographical reports. • Writers create graphic organizers or essays that show comparison/contrast; cause/effect; major event/contributing factors; sequence of events. • Writers produce argumentative essays defending a position based on evidence. • Writers base creative writing on historical events. • Writers write for social justice causes.
<p style="text-align: center;">Mathematics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writers create pictures or visuals to help develop a concept in this discipline. • Writers sometimes create story problems complete with characters and main ideas. • Writers explain their reasoning in a notebook and then trade notebooks with another writer so that they can learn from and evaluate each other’s reasoning, • Students write to explain their answers. 	<p style="text-align: center;">English/Language Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writers in this discipline usually use a workshop model to produce texts. • Students use mentor texts to study the effective moves made by accomplished writers. • Writers in this discipline explore a wide variety of genres. • Correctness matters more in this discipline, but should never be more important than effective content.