

Key to Sorting Activity

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