MAP Writing Student Checklist

Name _____ Date _____

How your essay is scored

Trait	Points
Organization/Purpose	1–4
Evidence/Elaboration	1–4
Conventions	0–2
Total	**10**

Trained human readers score your writing.

Don't copy, connect

On the scoring guide, "copied" or weakly connected source details describe a 2 or lower in Evidence/Elaboration. Put details in your own words and tie each one to your main idea.

Personal experiences can count as elaboration when they support your idea.

The genre isn't fixed: informational/explanatory, narrative, opinion (grade 4) or argumentative (grade 8). Practice them all.

Organization/Purpose

- [ ] My controlling idea is clear, and I keep it all the way through.
- [ ] My structure works between paragraphs and inside each one.
- [ ] I used varied transitions.
- [ ] My introduction and conclusion are effective.
- [ ] **Argument, grade 8:** I acknowledged or addressed the opposing argument.

Evidence/Elaboration

- [ ] I used specific, relevant facts and details from the sources.
- [ ] I used material from **every** source the prompt gives me.
- [ ] After each detail, I explained how it supports my controlling idea.
- [ ] My vocabulary is precise.

Conventions

- [ ] I checked sentence formation, punctuation, capitalization, grammar and spelling.

My plan

My controlling idea	**Detail + source** (in my words)	**This shows…**

Student summary based on DESE's MAP Grade-Level Writing Scoring Guides (informational/explanatory guide shown; the narrative guide differs). Not an official Missouri DESE document.