Scientific Communication Writing Assignment Rubric – Peer Evaluation

your name: Ruth Wubale

assignment reviewed: Algae a Way to Feed the Future by Katharine Brown

Using the rubric below, please evaluate each of your assigned news articles in each of the areas shown, filling out a separate evaluation form for each news article. Please highlight the part of the rubric text that explains why you chose a specific assessment category. In the "General Feedback" section at the bottom of this form, please include more specific feedback, including things that you liked as well as things that you feel could be improved upon and suggestions on how to improve them.

	Excellent	**Good**	**Needs Improvement**
Content: **Does the news article convey the writer's understanding of a biological topic?**	The news article introduces a biological topic and clearly illustrates the writer's understanding of the topic including what is known and not known about it and how understanding the biology associated with the topic helps us understand larger issues or concepts.	**The news article introduces a biological topic and presents information about it, but the topic is not explained clearly or doesn't distinguish between what is known vs. what is not known or doesn't explain how understanding the biology associated with the topic helps us understand larger issues or concepts.**	The news article does not illustrate the writers understanding of the topic and does not indicate what is known vs. what is not known or how understanding the biology associated with the topic helps us understand larger issues or concepts.
Audience: **Is the writing appropriate for the target audience?**	**The news article avoids jargon and clearly defines terms and ideas for a non-expert audience.**	The news article defines or explains some terms, but some key terms or ideas would be challenging for a non-expert audience.	The news article lacks definitions and explanations, making the topic inaccessible to a non-expert audience.
Organization: **Is the news article clearly organized?**	**The news article is well organized and easy to follow with good transitions between the paragraphs.**	The news article is generally organized and easy to follow but conceptual connections aren't always clear.	The news article is disorganized, and the information presented doesn't flow well.

	Excellent	Good	Needs Improvement
Format, spelling & grammar: **Does the news article follow the recommended format and is it free of writing errors?**	**The news article follows guidelines for paper length and format and has been carefully proofread for spelling and grammatical mistakes.**	The news article is outside the recommended length or does not conform to the formatting guidelines; the news article contains a small number of spelling and/or grammatical errors.	The news article is significantly outside the recommended length and does not conform to the formatting guidelines; the news article contains numerous spelling and/or grammatical errors.
Citations: **Are the citations presented appropriately?**	**The news article contains appropriate in-text citations and a list of references for all source material.**	The news article is missing either appropriate in-text citations or a list of references.	The news article is missing appropriate in-text citations and a list of references OR citations are missing for one or more sources.
Rationale for choosing topic: **Did the writer indicate why they chose the topic?**	**The rationale for choosing the topic is clearly explained.**		No rationale for the topic's choice is provided.

General feedback (5 points):

Overall, I enjoyed reading your writing. Your writing is clear and straight to the point. You made sure to follow all the guidelines and proofread for spelling and grammatical mistakes. Your intext citations were consistently on point. The news article is well organized and easy to follow with good. I am not an expert on this topic, but you formatted your text in a way where I had no trouble understanding and even managed to educate me along the way. You did a great job! Therefore, I gave you the highest possible rank in those areas.

Overall assessment (excellent, good, needs improvement):

I think overall your writing would and should receive a good grade. If you want to improve your writing and strengthen it a little more, I would love to hear more on the drawbacks. Therefore, I put the first category on "content" good instead of excellent. There was one short paragraph on the drawbacks and two paragraphs that followed on the overall conclusion of the unknown and how it is only a "possible solution". I would love to see the expansion on that short paragraph on the drawbacks which would really push your essay in a whole new light.