Scientific Communication Writing Assignment Rubric – Peer Evaluation

your name: Tiffany Xue

assignment reviewed: #38

	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.

Rubric continues on next page

	Excellent	**Good**	**Needs Improvement**
Format, spelling & grammar:	The news article follows guidelines for paper length and format and has been carefully	The news article is outside the recommended length or does not conform to the formatting	The news article is significantly outside the recommended length and does

Does the news article follow the recommended format and is it free of writing errors?	proofread for spelling and grammatical mistakes.	<mark>guidelines;</mark> the news article contains a small number of spelling and/or grammatical errors.	not conform to the formatting guidelines; the news article contains numerous spelling and/or grammatical errors.
Citations: Are the citations presented appropriately?	<mark>The news article contains appropriate in-text citations and a list of references for all source material.</mark>	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?	<mark>The rationale for choosing the topic is clearly explained.</mark>		No rationale for the topic's choice is provided.

General feedback (5 points):
I enjoy reading your news article! Each definition related to Synesthesia was well explained and easy to understand, and the examples you gave illustrated the definitions and concepts very well. Here are some of my personal opinions. There is a bit of a disproportion between the examples of Synesthesia and the biological concept of Synesthesia itself. I believe the two could be better combined if the examples could be simplified and the biological theory added without exceeding the recommended length. Also, you explain and distinguish various forms of Synesthesia through a variety of examples, but the biological causes of these different forms are not very clearly explained. Overall, it's a great article generally well-explained and well-supported by examples! As a reader who doesn't know anything about this topic, I was able to easily follow along and really understand the concept.

Overall assessment (excellent, good, needs improvement): Excellent