



Six Traits Writing Rubric

	6 Exemplary	5 Strong	4 Proficient	3 Developing	2 Emerging	1 Beginning
Ideas & Content <i>⌘ main theme</i> <i>⌘ supporting details</i>	Exceptionally clear, focused, engaging with relevant, strong supporting detail	Clear, focused, interesting ideas with appropriate detail	Evident main idea with some support which may be general or limited	Main idea may be cloudy because supporting detail is too general or even off-topic	Purpose and main idea may be unclear and cluttered by irrelevant detail	Lacks central idea; development is minimal or non-existent
Organization <i>⌘ structure</i> <i>⌘ introduction</i> <i>⌘ conclusion</i>	- Effectively organized in logical and creative manner - Creative and engaging intro and conclusion	- Strong order and structure - Inviting intro and satisfying closure	- Organization is appropriate, but conventional - Attempt at introduction and conclusion	- Attempts at organization; may be a "list" of events - Beginning and ending not developed	- Lack of structure; disorganized and hard to follow - Missing or weak intro and conclusion	- Lack of coherence; confusing - No identifiable introduction or conclusion
Voice <i>⌘ personality</i> <i>⌘ sense of audience</i>	- Expressive, engaging, sincere - Strong sense of audience - Shows emotion: humour, honesty, suspense or life	- Appropriate to audience and purpose - Writer behind the words comes through	- Evident commitment to topic - Inconsistent or dull personality	- Voice may be inappropriate or non-existent - Writing may seem mechanical	- Writing tends to be flat or stiff - Little or no hint of writer behind words	- Writing is lifeless - No hint of the writer
Word Choice <i>⌘ precision</i> <i>⌘ effectiveness</i> <i>⌘ imagery</i>	- Precise, carefully chosen - Strong, fresh, vivid images	- Descriptive, broad range of words - Word choice energizes writing	- Language is functional and appropriate - Descriptions may be overdone at times	- Words may be correct but mundane - No attempt at deliberate choice	Monotonous, often repetitious, sometimes inappropriate	- Limited range of words - Some vocabulary misused
Sentence Fluency <i>⌘ rhythm, flow</i> <i>⌘ variety</i>	- High degree of craftsmanship - Effective variation in sentence patterns	- Easy flow and rhythm - Good variety in length and structure	- Generally in control - Lack variety in length and structure	- Some awkward constructions - Many similar patterns and beginnings	- Often choppy - Monotonous sentence patterns - Frequent run-on sentences	- Difficult to follow or read aloud - Disjointed, confusing, rambling
Conventions <i>⌘ age appropriate, spelling, caps, punctuation, grammar</i>	Exceptionally strong control of standard conventions of writing	Strong control of conventions; errors are few and minor	Control of most writing conventions; occasional errors with high risks	Limited control of conventions; frequent errors do not interfere with understanding	Frequent significant errors may impede readability	Numerous errors distract the reader and make the text difficult to read

*Adapted for Regina Public Schools from Vicki Spandel, Creating Writers.
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