

### 6 + 1 Traits of Writing

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ideas</b></p> <p><i>Creative</i> <i>Unique</i> <i>Descriptions</i> <i>Details</i></p>	<p>This is just what I wanted to say! It makes a lot of sense. It's really clear. Good, juicy details.</p>	<p>Reader might have some questions. It TELLS, but it does not SHOW very clearly.</p>	<p>Reader will get the general idea. Need more details.</p>	<p>Reader will not follow this. What is my topic? The picture is not very clear. It's hard to get started.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Organization</b></p> <p><i>Title</i> <i>Introduction</i> <i>Paragraphs</i> <i>Conclusion</i></p>	<p>Opening hooks the reader. Ending really works. All the pieces fit. I know where I'm going. Follow me!</p>	<p>My beginning is okay. The middle makes sense, but it plods along.</p>	<p>It's pretty easy to follow. Maybe I need to move some things around. The ending doesn't grab yet.</p>	<p>How do I begin? This is confusing. Which pieces go where? I don't know where this is headed. How do I end this?</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Voice</b></p> <p><i>Point of View</i> <i>Mood</i> <i>Know Audience</i> <i>Interest</i></p>	<p>This is what I think. I'm speaking right to the reader. It might make you laugh or cry. This topic matters to me!</p>	<p>I hear a bit of me in this writing. I'm hiding my feelings and ideas a little.</p>	<p>This topic is okay. I'm trying to speak to the reader. I'm starting to have fun in a few places.</p>	<p>I don't hear myself in this paper. This topic is boring. SNORE! I wish that I didn't have to do this.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Word Choice</b></p> <p><i>Strong Verbs</i> <i>Precise Nouns</i> <i>Interesting Adjs.</i> <i>Sound Devices</i></p>	<p>My words paint a vivid picture. My words make the message CLEAR. I like the way my words sound &amp; feel.</p>	<p>I need more IMAGINATION here! Some of the words &amp; phrases are great, but some need work. Some words are really vague.</p>	<p>These are some of the first words that I thought to use. There is probably a BETTER way to say it, but this is my first try.</p>	<p>These words are NOT my favorites. The words do not paint a picture in your mind. Some of these words do not make sense.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sentence Fluency</b></p> <p><i>Variety</i> <i>Transitions</i> <i>Beginnings</i> <i>Length</i></p>	<p>Easy to read aloud. Some sentences are long &amp; stretchy others are short &amp; snappy. It's got good rhythm! Sentences begin differently.</p>	<p>A lot of my sentences begin the same way. I wish that it sounded a little smoother in places.</p>	<p>There are a lot of choppy little sentences, one after another. My sentences are all the same length. It sounds okay when read aloud.</p>	<p>Some of these sentences do NOT make sense! It's HARD to read this aloud. I can't tell where a new sentence begins.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Conventions</b></p> <p><i>Spelling</i> <i>Capitalization</i> <i>Grammar</i> <i>Punctuation</i></p>	<p>Punctuation smoothly guides. The grammar contributes to clarity &amp; style. Only light editing is needed.</p>	<p>My spelling is correct on common words. Simple things are done well.</p>	<p>My errors are consistent. There are minor problems with grammar &amp; usage. I hastily edited.</p>	<p>There are numerous errors that make it difficult to understand. I can't publish this! It needs a lot of editing.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Presentation</b></p> <p><i>Neatness</i> <i>Font</i> <i>Graphics</i> <i>Add to Meaning</i></p>	<p>This piece is easy to read. Everything is in the right place. This is a finished copy &amp; I'm proud of it!</p>	<p>My margins and white space are inconsistent. More bullets or numbers would help. This is a draft copy.</p>	<p>Graphics are not in the right space. Too many different fonts. It's pretty hard to read this.</p>	<p>My spacing is uneven. TOOCROWDED! These look like notes. It's too difficult to even read.</p>