

Use this scoring rubric, based on the six-traits writing model, to assess your students' writing.

Scoring Rubric

Student's Name _____

	1	2	3	4	Score
Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has few, if any, original ideas. • Lacks or has a poorly developed topic; lacks a topic sentence. • Has few, if any, details. • Has little or no focus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has some original ideas. • Has a minimally developed topic; may or may not have a topic sentence. • Some details are present. • Focus strays. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has original ideas. • Has a fairly well-developed topic stated in a topic sentence. • Has some details that support the topic. • Generally maintains focus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has original ideas that tie in with each other. • Has a fully developed topic and a clear topic sentence that expresses the main idea. • Has carefully selected, interesting details that support the topic. • Maintains focus throughout. 	
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has little or no organization; lacks coherence. • Lacks a beginning, middle, and/or end. • Is difficult to follow. • Has no order words or phrases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some organization is present. • Has a beginning, middle, and end, but may be unclear. • Is difficult to follow at times. • Has few or ineffective order words and/or phrases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has logical organization. • Has a beginning, middle, and end. • Is fairly easy to follow. • Has order words and/or phrases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has clear and logical organization. • Has a complete beginning, middle, and end. • Is very easy to follow. • Has appropriate order words and/or phrases. 	
Word Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a limited range of words. • Words are not appropriate for purpose and audience. • Words are used incorrectly. • Word choice shows little thought and precision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses passive verbs. • Uses few modifiers. • Some words may not be appropriate for the audience and purpose. • A few words are used incorrectly. • Word choice includes some clichés and "tired" words. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses some strong verbs. • Uses some modifiers. • Words are mostly appropriate for the audience and purpose. • Words are used correctly but do not enhance the writing. • Words show thought and precision; clichés and "tired" words are avoided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has many strong verbs. • Has many strong modifiers. • Words are consistently appropriate for audience and purpose. • Words are used correctly and enhance the writing. • Word choice is thoughtful and precise and includes some figurative language. 	

Sentence Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does not write complete sentences. • Has no variation in sentence structures and lengths. • Has no variation in sentence beginnings. • Has no cadence or flow in sentences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has some incomplete sentences. • Has little variation in sentence structures and lengths. • Has little variation in sentence beginnings. • Sentences flow somewhat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has 1 or 2 incomplete sentences. • Has some variation in sentence structures and lengths. • Has some variation in sentence beginnings. • Sentences flow fairly naturally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has complete sentences. • Varied sentence structures and lengths contribute to the rhythm of the writing. • Varied sentence beginnings contribute to the flow of the writing. • Sentences flow naturally. 	
Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is neither expressive nor engaging. • Voice is not appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic, and/or genre. • Little evidence of an individual voice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing has some expression. • Voice is generally appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic, and/or genre. • Voice comes and goes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is expressive and somewhat engaging. • Voice is appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic, and/or genre. • The voice is unique. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing is very expressive and engaging. • Voice is consistently appropriate for the purpose, audience, topic, and/or genre. • The voice is unique, honest, and passionate. 	
Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has multiple errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. • Poor handwriting and/or presentation makes the writing hard to read. • Illustrations, if present, do not accurately portray the main idea. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has some errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. • Handwriting and/or presentation is fairly clear. • Illustrations, if present, portray the main idea but do not enhance it. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has few errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. • Handwriting and/or presentation is clear. • Illustrations, if present, accurately portray the main idea and enhance it somewhat. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has minimal errors in grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. • Handwriting and/or presentation of the piece is attractive and easy to read. • Illustrations, if present, enhance the main idea significantly. 	

TOTAL