**Six Traits Writing Rubric**

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|  | **6**  **Exemplary** | **5**  **Strong** | **4**  **Proficient** | **3**  **Developing** | **2**  **Emerging** | **1**  **Beginning** |
| **Ideas and Content** | **-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** | **-Effectively and organized in logical and creative manner**  **-Uses varied transitions to create cohesion (flow) and link ideas.** | **-Strong order and structure**  **-Logically organized**  **-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**  **- Need more transitions** | **-Lack of structure; disorganized and hard to follow**  **-Missing or weak intro and conclusion**  **-Lack of transitions throughout** | **-Lack of coherence**  **-No identifiable introduction or conclusion**  **-No organization or transitions** |
| **Voice** | **-Expressive, engaging, sincere**  **-Strong sense of audience**  **-Shows emotion: humor, honesty, suspense, or life** | **-Appropriate to audience and purpose**  **-Writing 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 or**  **-No hint of the writer** |
| **Word Choice** | **-Precise, carefully chosen**  **-Original**  **-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 word choice** | **-Monotonous, often repetitious, sometimes inappropriate** | **-Limited range of words**  **-Some vocabulary misused** |
| **Sentence Fluency** | **-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** | **-Exceptionally strong control of standard conventions of writing** | **-Strong control of conventions; errors are few and minor** | **-Control of most writing conventions; occasionally errors with high risks** | **-Limited control of conventions; frequent errors do not interfere with understanding** | **-Frequent significant errors may interfere with readability** | **-Numerous errors distract the reader and make the text difficult to read** |