

List 116. RUBRICS FOR WRITING— ELEMENTARY/INTERMEDIATE

Good writing is a complex accomplishment involving the organization of ideas, the select use of vocabulary, attention to readers and purpose, and the “mechanics” of grammar, spelling, punctuation and handwriting. Rubrics provide students information about the qualities and dimensions of good writing and feedback about their progress. Examples of written work at each of the four levels should be available. Develop rubrics with your students for special writing projects such as reports, short stories, or journals.

Name <i>4th grade student</i>		Date <i>—</i>			
	Beginning 1	Developing 2	Accomplished 3	Exemplary 4	Score
Topic	Key word(s) near beginning	Main idea or topic in first sentence	Good main idea or topic sentence	Interesting, well-stated main idea/topic sentence	<i>4</i>
Organization	Ideas not ordered	Some order of main idea + details or sequence	Main idea + details or sequential, as appropriate	Good flow of ideas from topic sentence + details or sequence	<i>4</i>
Paragraphs	One paragraph or text divided but not by content	Supporting details mostly grouped into appropriate paragraphs	Ideas appropriately divided into paragraphs with supporting details	Strong paragraphs ordered to develop story or exposition <i>n/a</i>	<i>—</i>
Sentences	Mostly complete sentences; some fragments or run-on	Complete sentences; few run-on sentences	Complete sentences; no run-ons or fragments; some variety in length and type	No sentence errors; variety in length and type; sentence types relate to style of writing	<i>3</i>
Vocabulary	Related words or ideas mentioned; limited basic vocabulary	Attempts to use new key words in description; goes beyond basic vocabulary	Uses new key/related words and ideas correctly; varies language	Uses new key/related words/ideas easily; colorful, interesting words suitable for topic and audience	<i>4</i>
Grammar	Many errors in agreement, number, tense	Some errors in agreement, number, tense	Few errors in agreement, number, tense	No errors in agreement, number, tense	<i>3</i>
Punctuation and Case	Several punctuation and case errors	Few punctuation and case errors	Minor errors in punctuation and case; variety used	Correct punctuation and case throughout; variety used	<i>2</i>
Spelling	Many spelling errors	Some spelling errors	Few spelling errors	No spelling errors	<i>2</i>
Handwriting	Hard to read; not well formed	Mostly legible	Well-formed letters	Neat, easy to read, well formed	<i>4</i>

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