Six Traits Writing Rubric

	6 Exemplary	5 Strong	4 Proficient	3 Developing	2 Emerging	1 Beginning
Ideas & Content main theme supporting details	• 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 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 personality sense of audience 	 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 topicInconsistent 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 lifelessNo hint of the writer
Word Choice ≥ precision ≥effectiveness ≥ imagery	 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 rhythm, flow variety	 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 ≥age appropriate, spelling, caps, punctuation, grammar	• 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