

Teacher 6 Point Rubric

	IDEAS	ORGANIZATION	VOICE
6	<p>Clear, focused, compelling-holds the reader's attention Striking insight, impressive knowledge of topic Takes reader on a journey of understanding Clear main idea and significant, intriguing details</p>	<p>Thoughtful structure guides reader through text like a bright beacon Provocative opening-enlightening conclusion Smooth, well-crafted transitions give whole piece cohesion Structure enhances reader's understanding/enjoyment of piece</p>	<p>As individual as fingerprints Begs to be read aloud-reader can't wait to share Uses voice as a tool to enhance meaning Passionate, vibrant, electric, compelling</p>
5	<p>Clear and focused Reflects in-depth knowledge of topic Authentic, convincing info from experience/research Clear main idea well supported by details</p>	<p>Purposeful organization draws attention to key ideas Strong lead-conclusion that provides closure Thoughtful transitions clearly connect ideas Structure helps reader track/process ideas</p>	<p>Original-definitely distinctive A good "read aloud" candidate Voice appealing and well suited to topic/audience Spontaneous, lively, expressive, enthusiastic</p>
4	<p>Clear and focused more often than not Writer knows topic well enough to write in broad terms Some new info, some common knowledge Main idea can be easily inferred, quality details outweigh generalities</p>	<p>Organization works in harmony with ideas Functional lead and conclusion Helpful transition often suggest connections Structure helpful, but often predictable</p>	<p>Sparks of individuality Reader might share a line or two Voice fades at times-acceptable for topic/audience Pleasant, sincere, emerging, earnest</p>
3	<p>Clear, focused moments overshadowed by undeveloped, rambling text Writer needs greater knowledge of topic-gaps apparent Mostly common knowledge and best guesses Generalities dominate, writer has a weak grip on the main idea</p>	<p>Reader must be attentive-organization loose, or out of synch with ideas Lead and/or conclusion need work Transitions sometimes missing or formulaic Structure relies too much on formula- or necessitates re-reading</p>	<p>Voice emerges sporadically-not strong or distinctive A "share-aloud" moment Voice often distant, not always directed to audience Quiet, subdued, restrained, inconsistent</p>
2	<p>Writer lacks clear vision-still defining topic, key questions Writer struggles with insufficient knowledge- writing is strained Broad unsupported observations, invented details Filler dominates- main idea wanders in and out of focus</p>	<p>Hard to follow, even with effort- a faint light in the distance Lead and/or conclusion missing or formulaic, minimally helpful Transitions often unclear or missing Significant re-organization needed-reader often baffled</p>	<p>Writer seems to be in hiding A hint of voice- text not ready for sharing Voice faint- OR, not right for audience, purpose Distant, encyclopedic-OR inappropriately informal</p>
1	<p>Very foggy-no "land in sight" yet Main idea never emerges due to writer's lack of knowledge Hastily assembled notes, random thoughts Bits of information wander in search of a main idea</p>	<p>Lights out-path is dark Starts right in (no lead) -just stops (no conclusion) Transitions missing-perhaps points aren't connected Disjointed collection of details/thoughts- no structure</p>	<p>No sense of person behind words- is anyone <i>home</i>? Reader feels no invitation to share text aloud No apparent engagement with topic, concern for audience Voice just missing</p>

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WORD CHOICE		SENTENCE FLUENCY	CONVENTIONS
6	<p>Everyday language used in original ways You want to read it more than once- quotable Every word carries its own weight Powerful, stunning verbs, unique phrasing Words invoke sensory impressions, create vivid images</p>	<p>Easy to read with inflection that brings out voice Dances along like a lively script Stunning variety in style, length Fragments effective, dialogue authentic/dramatic/ performable</p>	<p>Only the pickiest editors would spot errors Thoroughly edited-conventions enhance meaning, voice Complexity of text showcases wide range of conventions Enticing layout (optional) Virtually ready to publish</p>
5	<p>Natural language used well Engaging-when you start reading, you can't stop Concise, clear Strong verbs, striking phrasing Words appeal to senses, create clear images</p>	<p>Can be read with expression Easy going rhythm, flow cadence Significant variety in style, length Fragments add emphasis, dialogue authentic</p>	<p>Minor errors that are easily overlooked Edited-conventions support meaning, voice Sufficient complexity reflects skill in numerous conventions Pleasing layout (optional) Ready to publish with light touch-ups</p>
4	<p>Functional, clear language used correctly Easy to understand, some eye-catching phrases Vague words (fun, nice) or wordiness- meaning still clear Some strong verbs, modifiers may be overworked Strong moments outweigh clichés, overwritten text</p>	<p>Natural phrasing-easy to read Rhythmic flow dominates-a few awkward moments Some variety in style, length Fragments not a problem, dialogue natural</p>	<p>Noticeable errors- message still clear Edited for general readability Shows control over basics (e.g. cap's end punctuation) Acceptable layout(optional) Good once-over needed prior to publication</p>
3	<p>Generally clear but imprecise language-“first thoughts” Now and then, a “gem” amidst the agates Vague words or wordiness water down the message Overused modifiers/weak verbs outnumber strong moments Reader may encounter clichés, or overwritten text (written to impress)</p>	<p>Mechanical but readable Gangly, tangly, never-ending or chop-chop-choppy text common Repetitive beginnings, little variety in length Fragments (if used) do not work, dialogue (if used) a little stiff</p>	<p>Noticeable, distracting errors- may slow reading, affect message Erratic editing-many things missed Problems even with basic conventions More attention to layout needed (optional) Thorough, careful editing needed prior to publication</p>
2	<p>Overworked language, words used incorrectly, or thesaurus overload Have to search hard for “gems” Word choice and wordiness cloud the message, leave reader confused Adjective avalanche-where are the verbs? Reader must work hard even for general meaning</p>	<p>You can read it if you’re patient-and you rehearse Many run-ons, choppy sentences, non-sentences, or other problems Minimal variety in style, length Fragments (if used) are oversights, dialogue hard to perform</p>	<p>Frequent, distracting errors get in the way of message Minimal editing-if any Numerous errors even on basics Limited attention to layout (optional) Line-by-line editing needed prior to publication</p>
1	<p>Words chosen at random- something to fill the page Apparent struggle to get words on paper Message buried Language not functional Words do not speak to reader</p>	<p>Hard to read, even with effort Missing words, awkward moments, irregular structure Hard to judge variety-hard to tell where sentences begin Fragments (if used) impair readability, dialogue hard to read</p>	<p>Serious, frequent errors make reading a real effort Lack of editing leaves even patient readers struggling Errors on basics obscure meaning, put up road blocks No apparent attention to layout (optional) Word-by-word editing needed prior to publication</p>

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