

Student 6 Point Rubric

	IDEAS	ORGANIZATION	VOICE
6	My writing is clear and focused. It will hold your attention. I know this topic inside and out. I help readers learn, think, and gain insight. The details I chose will surprise and delight you.	My organization will guide you through the text like a light in the dark. My lead will hook you-the conclusion will leave you thinking. I link ideas in a way that highlights important connections. The structure takes you from point to point with a real sense of purpose.	This writing is as individual as my fingerprints. Trust me- you will need to share this aloud. I use voice to make the message resonate in your head. Hear the passion in my voice? I want you to love this topic.
5	My writing is clear and focused. I know a lot about this topic. I consistently share important information. I use many details/examples to support main ideas.	My organization will help you zero in on key ideas. I have a strong lead-and my conclusion wraps up the discussion. My transitions show how ideas connect. The paper's structure helps you keep track of ideas.	This is original and distinctive. It's definitely me. I think you will want to read this aloud. This voice goes with the topic, and reaches out to the audience. The paper is lively and expressive. It has energy.
4	This paper is clear and focused- most of the time! I have <i>some</i> knowledge of the topic. My paper offers readers <i>some</i> new information. I came up with a few details and examples.	My organization works with the ideas. I have a lead and conclusion. They seem OK. My transitions are helpful, I think. You can follow it, but sometimes you know what is coming next.	This writing strikes a spark or two. You might recognize me. You might share a line or two aloud. My voice might fade here and there- usually I reach out to the audience. This paper is sincere. It sounds like I mean what I say.
3	Some of my writing rambles-I ran out of meaningful things to say. I wish I knew more about this topic. It was hard to think of new information all the time. I scrambled to come up with details!	When I read this over, I feel like moving some parts around. My lead and/or conclusion could use work. I forgot some transitions. OR, I followed a pattern (My first reason, second reason) This is hard to follow at times- OR, you always know what's coming!	My voice comes out here and there. I'm not sure you can tell it's me. There could be a "share aloud" moment in there somewhere. I wasn't always thinking of the audience. My voice is very faint. It's hard to hear even when you listen closely. My voice is pretty quiet in this paper. It's a careful, reserved voice. I'm hiding behind the words. It's not me yet.
2	My writing rambles-not all of it makes sense. I did NOT know this topic well enough to write about it. I said some things I could not prove or support. I couldn't come up with many details.	I feel like re-organizing everything- beginning to end. I have no lead or conclusion, OR, it's the same thing you always hear. My transitions are missing- OR they don't make sense. This is hard to follow, even when you pay attention.	This has a hint of voice, but it's not ready to share. My voice is very faint. It's hard to hear even when you listen closely. I sound bored- or maybe like an encyclopedia. It's not the right voice.
1	This is not clear. I couldn't figure out what I wanted to say. I did not have ANY information on this topic. These are just notes and thoughts- whatever came into my head. I have all these bits of information-but do they go with anything?	This is like stumbling through the woods, without a flashlight. It just starts and stops. There's no real lead or conclusion. I can't link ideas-I'm not even sure they go together. No one can follow this. I can't follow it myself.	I'm not at home in this paper. I can't hear myself. Not an echo. I don't think anyone will share this aloud. I couldn't get excited about this topic. I didn't think about my audience. My voice is just missing.

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	WORD CHOICE	SENTENCE FLUENCY	CONVENTIONS
6	I found original, creative ways to use everyday words. You'll want to read this more than once- you might quote a phrase. Every word carries its own weight. I used the power of verbs-not too many adjectives. My words make pictures in your mind- or touch your senses.	This is easy to read with voice. It flows just like a good movie script. You won't believe how much variety I have in sentence style and length. If I used fragments, they add punch. My dialogue is like listening in on a conversation.	Only the pickiest editors would spot errors. This is carefully edited. Conventions bring out the meaning and voice. My paper shows off a wide range of conventions. My layout (optional) is appealing and leads the reader to main ideas This is virtually ready to publish.
5	I write to make meaning clear, not to impress you. Once you start reading this, you won't want to stop. I chose words to make the message clear. I kept it concise. I used strong verbs- and found new ways to say things. My words make pictures in your mind- or touch your senses.	You can read this with expression. It has an easy rhythm and flow. My writing has quite a lot of variety in sentence style and length. If I used fragments, they are effective. My dialogue echoes real speech.	I have some minor but they are easy to overlook. I edited the paper. The conventions support meaning and voice. This paper shows that I know many different conventions. My layout (optional) enhances the presentation of ideas. This is ready to publish with light touch-ups.
4	My writing is clear. I used words correctly. You'll spot some strong words or phrases. I have a few vague words (fun, nice) and parts are wordy, but it makes sense. I need more strong verbs. Sometimes my writing makes a picture in my mind.	My writing sounds natural. It's easy to read. It's pretty smooth-with an awkward moment or two, maybe There is some variety in sentence style and length. If I used fragments, they work. If I used dialogue, it sounds fairly authentic.	There are noticeable, minor errors. My message is still clear. I edited this paper, and it's fairly easy to read. This paper shows control over basic conventions, like capitals. My layout (optional) seems fine. It draws attention to main ideas. This piece needs a good once-over before it's published.
3	I wrote the first words I thought of. You'll get the general idea. Here and there is a word or phrase I like. Vague or wordy passages make my message unclear at times. Not enough verbs- and too many modifiers clutter up the message. You might need to re-read to "see" it in your head.	It's a little bumpy, a rocky ride, but you can get through it. There are awkward, choppy moments. It's smooth here and there. Too many sentences start the same way. Too many are the same length. Fragments do not work. This dialogue isn't real.	This many errors could slow a reader down. I edited too quickly – I missed a lot of things. My paper shows problems even with basic conventions (easy spelling) I should give more attention to layout (optional). This piece needs thorough, careful editing before it's published.
2	Watch out for tired words, vague words, thesaurus words. You have to look hard to find strong moments. Wordiness and flat language make the message fuzzy. Way too many adjectives-and verbs rode into the sunset. These words paint no clear pictures.	You can read it if you're patient-and you rehearse I have many run-ons, choppy sentences. Are these all sentences? If I found a good sentence pattern, I stuck with it. If I used fragments, they were an accident. I'm not sure if I wrote any dialogue.	The errors are getting in the way of my message. It's hard to see I even edited this. I made numerous errors even on basic conventions. I did not think about layout much yet (optional). This piece needs line-by-line editing before it's published.
1	I wrote anything just to fill space. It was a struggle to get words- any words-on the page. The message got lost in here somewhere... I need more words, stronger words- different words! Help! What was I trying to say or describe?	This is very hard to read, even for me. Even if you practice, you will need to re-read and fill in some blanks. These sentences don't sound right, but I'm not sure why. I'm not sure where sentences start and stop.	There are so many errors it's almost impossible to read this. Even patient readers will struggle! This needs work. Errors on basic conventions put up reading road blocks. I need to re-work the layout (optional). This piece needs word-by-word editing before it's published.