

## The 6+1 Traits of Writing

### IDEAS

Strong, easy to identify main message, original, sticks to the main idea and does not try to tell everything, knows a lot about topic, displays interesting details to expand the main idea and holds the reader's attention, and the writing is clear and easy to understand.

### WORD CHOICE

Easy to picture what you are talking about, words paint images in your mind, words are clear and used correctly, and displays "just right" words or phrases to convey each thought, strong verbs that shows action and gives life to the writing, new words to express thoughts, and sensory words that add colour and life in writing.

### SENTENCE FLUENCY

Easy to read aloud, has a natural, smooth, rhythmic flow, includes natural and easy to follow dialogue, many types of sentences, including simple, compound, and complex that begin in different ways, and careful use of ordering or connecting words, including although, finally, however, lastly, at the same time, while to create smooth transitions.

### ORGANIZATION

Easy to follow, strong, logical sense of order, sticks to the main idea, compelling or exciting beginning/lead that draws a reader in, and the ending fits the paper and makes it feel finished.

### CONVENTIONS

Displays correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, including tense and endings, shows effective paragraphing that strengthens the structure of the piece, and displays uses conventions that add style and supports the reader's understanding of the text (!,?,.).

### PRESENTATION

Displays pleasing and accessible appearance, neat printing or handwriting, and bright, bold, and beautiful illustrations.

### VOICE

Personality, sounds like you, individual, lively, expressive, engaging, and heartfelt, shows feelings, passion, and speaks right to the reader, and is writing that you want to share aloud.