

Grading Criteria for 1st Grade Writing

Writing Sample

Read the student's writing sample. Check the bulleted descriptors which best describe the paper.
Determine the developmental score based on where most of the descriptors are located on the rubric.

Writing Stage ____/4

	Fluent (4)	Capable (3)	Developing (2)	Emerging (1)	Experimenting (0)
Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Presents a fresh, original topic <input type="checkbox"/> Uses multiple sentences to enrich and connect ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Creates writing that explains, gives directions, expresses an opinion, extends a story or describes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts a creative topic <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts to connect ideas to support the topic <input type="checkbox"/> Provides important details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Has a clear, predictable topic <input type="checkbox"/> Includes ideas that relate to the topic <input type="checkbox"/> Includes some details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Has an unclear topic <input type="checkbox"/> Writes ideas unrelated to the topic <input type="checkbox"/> Uses drawings that show details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks evidence of topic <input type="checkbox"/> Dictates a clear message <input type="checkbox"/> Dictates to provide details
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Begins with an engaging lead <input type="checkbox"/> Writes an ending that provides closure <input type="checkbox"/> Follows a logical sequence and creates an easy-to-follow text <input type="checkbox"/> Uses elaborate transitions: <i>After a while, The next day, Because of this, The first thing, Finally</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Uses identifiable beginning and ending <input type="checkbox"/> Writes multiple sentences or images that suggest development/ sequencing <input type="checkbox"/> Uses connecting words: <i>first, next, then, once, after, and, but, or, so, because</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Creates image and text that complement each other consistently <input type="checkbox"/> Has adequate beginning or ending <input type="checkbox"/> Uses some sequencing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Creates picture and text that go together <input type="checkbox"/> Has some evidence of beginning and/or ending <input type="checkbox"/> Uses little sequencing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Is unable to order <input type="checkbox"/> Has no sense of beginning or ending <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks connections between ideas <input type="checkbox"/> Dictates sequential story
Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Uses specific details to evoke emotion on the part of the reader <input type="checkbox"/> Creates lively, engaging, personal text that is FUN to read aloud! <input type="checkbox"/> Uses voice to influence meaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Elicits emotional response in reader <input type="checkbox"/> Has individual expression with sparks of personality <input type="checkbox"/> Writes with personal style <input type="checkbox"/> Uses conventional devices (exclamation points, underlining) to enhance voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Puts moments of voice throughout text <input type="checkbox"/> Expresses some predictable feelings <input type="checkbox"/> Experiments with conventional devices (exclamation points, underlining) to enhance voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Includes hints of voice in words and phrases <input type="checkbox"/> Uses writing that sounds "mechanical" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Expresses voice in dictation <input type="checkbox"/> Communicates feelings with color, shape, and line in drawing

	Fluent (4)	Capable (3)	Developing (2)	Emerging (1)	Experimenting (0)
Word Choice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Writes with vocabulary that may extend well beyond spelling ability <input type="checkbox"/> Uses vivid, expressive language <input type="checkbox"/> Uses striking, unexpected phrases: <i>I was heart-pounding afraid. It rox!</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Uses some strong verbs: <i>shouted, scampered, trotted, cried</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Writes with variety—dares to try new, less familiar words <input type="checkbox"/> Uses words to create images or add clarity, detail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Writes decodable words <input type="checkbox"/> Uses many simple familiar words <input type="checkbox"/> Uses sight words frequently 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Creates letter strings that contain one- or two-letter words lk (like), dg (dog), hs (house), m (my) <input type="checkbox"/> Repeats “comfort” (familiar) words in own text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Writes letters in strings <input type="checkbox"/> Imitates word patterns <input type="checkbox"/> Uses pictures for words and phrases <input type="checkbox"/> Copies environmental print
Sentence Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Includes creative and varied sentence structure <input type="checkbox"/> Creates text that is easy to read with expression and flows naturally <input type="checkbox"/> Uses dialogue appropriately <input type="checkbox"/> May use fragments for effect: <i>WOW! Crunch!</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Shows variety in sentence lengths, patterns, beginnings <input type="checkbox"/> Flows from sentence to sentence <input type="checkbox"/> May experiment with dialogue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Uses simple sentences <input type="checkbox"/> Experiments with other sentence patterns <input type="checkbox"/> Uses effective repetitive patterns: <i>We wint to the prk. We playd on the swings. We playd on the slid.</i> (We went to the park. We played on the swings. We played on the slide.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts simple sentences <input type="checkbox"/> Uses ineffective short, repetitive sentence patterns (I like, I can) <input type="checkbox"/> Strings words together into phrases <input type="checkbox"/> Dictates sentences fluently and expressively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Uses words in isolation <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks evidence of sentence patterns <input type="checkbox"/> Mimics letters & words across the page <input type="checkbox"/> Dictates words or phrases
Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Spells high-frequency words correctly and is very close on other words <input type="checkbox"/> Consistently uses capitals for proper nouns and sentence beginnings <input type="checkbox"/> Uses a variety of punctuation correctly <input type="checkbox"/> Spells challenging words correctly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Spells high-frequency words correctly most of the time <input type="checkbox"/> Uses capitals for some proper nouns and at the beginning of sentences <input type="checkbox"/> Uses end punctuation correctly and other punctuation attempted <input type="checkbox"/> Uses transitional spelling on less frequent words (monster) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Uses spaces between words <input type="checkbox"/> Uses capitals at the beginning of sentences <input type="checkbox"/> Uses some end punctuation <input type="checkbox"/> Uses phonetic spelling (mostr, klosd, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Inconsistently uses spaces between words <input type="checkbox"/> Uses capitals and lower case—not ALWAYS correctly <input type="checkbox"/> Uses random punctuation <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts semi-phonetic spelling (MTR, KD, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts spacing of words, letters, or symbols <input type="checkbox"/> Attempts to create standard letters <input type="checkbox"/> Writes letter strings (pre-phonetic: dmRzzz)