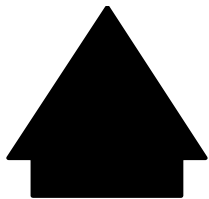


6+1 Trait[®] Writing

Scoring Continuum



WOW!

Exceeds expectations

- IDEAS
- ORGANIZATION
- VOICE
- WORD CHOICE
- SENTENCE FLUENCY
- CONVENTIONS
- PRESENTATION

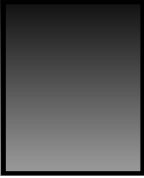
5 STRONG:

shows control and skill in this trait;
many strengths present



4 EFFECTIVE:

on balance, the strengths outweigh the
weaknesses; a small amount of revision
is needed



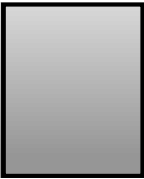
3 DEVELOPING:

strengths and need for revision are
about equal; about half-way home



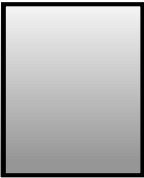
2 EMERGING:

need for revision outweighs strengths;
isolated moments hint at what the
writer has in mind



1 NOT YET:

a bare beginning; writer not yet
showing any control



WORD CHOICE

5 *Words convey the intended message in a precise, interesting, and natural way. The words are powerful and engaging.*

- A. Words are **specific** and **accurate**. It is easy to understand just what the writer means.
- B. **Striking words and phrases** often catch the reader's eye and linger in the reader's mind.
- C. Language and phrasing are **natural, effective**, and **appropriate** for the audience.
- D. **Lively verbs** add energy while **specific nouns** and **modifiers** add depth.
- E. Choices in language **enhance** the **meaning** and **clarify** understanding.
- F. **Precision** is obvious. The writer has taken care to put just the right word or phrase in just the right spot.

3 *The language is functional, even if it lacks much energy. It is easy to figure out the writer's meaning on a general level.*

- A. Words are **adequate and correct in a general sense**, and they support the meaning by not getting in the way.
- B. Familiar **words and phrases communicate** but rarely capture the reader's imagination.
- C. **Attempts at colorful language** show a willingness to stretch and grow but sometimes reach beyond the audience (thesaurus overload!).
- D. Despite a **few successes**, the writing is marked by **passive verbs, everyday nouns, and mundane modifiers**.
- E. The words and phrases are **functional** with only **one or two fine moments**.
- F. The words may be **refined in a couple of places**, but the language looks more like **the first thing that popped into the writer's mind**.

1 *The writer demonstrates a limited vocabulary or has not searched for words to convey specific meaning.*

- A. Words are so **nonspecific and distracting** that only a **very limited meaning** comes through.
- B. Problems with language **leave the reader wondering**. Many of the **words just don't work** in this piece.
- C. Audience has not been considered. **Language is used incorrectly** making the message secondary to the misfires with the words.
- D. **Limited vocabulary** and/or **misused parts of speech** seriously impair understanding.
- E. Words and phrases are so **unimaginative** and **lifeless** that they detract from the meaning.
- F. **Jargon or clichés** distract or mislead. **Redundancy** may distract the reader.

