

Name _____

Writing Traits Checklist

Ideas

- Is the writing focused on one main idea?
- Is the main idea supported with interesting details?
- Does the piece include interesting and original ideas?
- Does the writer seem to be an expert on the topic?

Organization

- Does the beginning of the piece grab the reader's attention?
- Are there transitions to connect ideas and details?
- Does the writing follow a logical sequence?
- Does the ending sum up the main idea?

Voice

- Does the writer clearly express his or her thoughts?
- Is the writer's point of view clear?
- Does the writing address its audience?
- Has the writer added a unique, personal touch to the piece?

Word Choice

- Does the writer use everyday words well?
- Do the words create detailed pictures in the reader's mind?
- Does the writer avoid repeating words?
- Are ideas expressed with strong and precise language?

Sentence Fluency

- Do sentences begin in different ways?
- Do sentences vary in length and structure?
- Can the reader move with ease from one sentence to the next?
- Does the writing have a natural flow when read aloud?

Conventions

- Has the writing been proofread and edited?
- Is each word spelled correctly?
- Are capitalization, grammar, and punctuation used properly?
- Does each paragraph explain only one thought or idea?

Presentation

- Is the writing neatly handwritten or word-processed?
- Does the appearance of the writing make it easy to read?
- Do the graphics support the writing?
- Is this piece ready to be shared with others?

