

6-Traits of Writing

Cheat Sheet

for Primary Grades



Ideas

- Knowledge of topic
- Picture matches words
- Lots of details
- Multiple sentences
- Writing makes sense
- Stays on topic



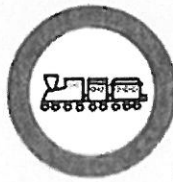
Voice

- Reader-writer connection
- Sense of writer feeling/attitude
- Word choice and/or punctuation conveys voice (ALL CAPS, !!!!, underline, **bold**, etc.)



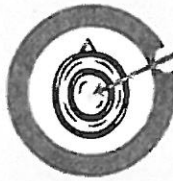
Sentence Fluency

- Readable without writer interpretation
- Complete sentences
- Varied sentences (beg., lengths, types)



Organization

- Beginning, middle, end
- Logical order/sequence
- Simple transitions



Word Choice

- Specific words, rather than general & vague (Right word, right spot)
- Synonyms
- "Wow" words; "Purple" words
- Big words, spelled wrong
- Five-senses description
- Use of action verbs



Conventions

- Word spacing
- Letter formation
- Writing on a line
- Readable spelling
- Capitalization
- Punctuation
- Grammar & mechanics