Writing Rubric
(Assessment Scales)

Exceptional Writer

Enthusiastic and reflective writer who enjoys pursuing writing independently; uses a wide range of techniques to engage the reader; writing is fully developed, appears effortless, shows originality, liveliness, excitement, humor or suspense.

Collection of work demonstrates:
- Purposeful organizational plan
- Clear sentence sense and variety
- Control over vocabulary choice and arrangement
- Few errors in conventions and spelling
- Sustained quality throughout each place

Strong Writer

Competent and confident writer who uses a wide range of techniques to engage the reader.

Collection of work demonstrates:
- Strong organizational plan
- Clear sentence sense and variety
- Selection of vocabulary appropriate for the writing
- Few errors in conventions and spelling
Capable Writer

Comfortable with writing; developing skills and confidence; begins to use techniques to engage reader.

Collection of work demonstrates:
Organizational plan
Varied sentence structure, may include fragments and/or run-ons
Beginning use of precise vocabulary (more telling than showing writing)
Occasional errors in conventions and spelling

Developing Writer

Developing fluency and writes with some degree of confidence; lacks techniques to engage reader.

Collection of work demonstrates:
Evidence of organizational plan but may lose focus
Simple or repetitive sentences, may include fragments and/or run-ons
Errors in conventions and spelling, but is readable

Limited Writer

May be a reluctant writer; has limited experience in writing.

Collection of work demonstrates:
Inconsistent organizational plan
Vague or confusing statements
Simple sentence structure, many fragments and/or run-ons
Limited vocabulary
Frequent errors in conventions and spelling interfere with readability

Emergent Writer
(Teacher supplies appropriate descriptors)