

Traits for GOOD Writing

Some questions to ask yourself...

IDEAS

- Do you have a thoughtful purpose for this piece of writing?
- Do your details support the ideas in your writing?
- What message do you want your readers to take away from this?
- Will your readers find your ideas interesting? Are they presented in an interesting way?

VOICE

- Do the words sound like YOU? (Do they reflect your personality & writing style?)
- Will your readers understand you better as an author after reading this piece?
- Have your feelings come across in your writing?

ORGANIZATION

- Does your piece have a logical beginning, middle and end OR is the information presented in an order that is logical and makes sense?
- Do your ideas transition easily from one to the other?
- Do ALL of your details support the main idea or message in some way?

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WORD CHOICE

- Are the words you have chosen descriptive and interesting?
- Have you worked to leave out overused words? (Ex: good, said)
- Do many of your nouns & verbs have descriptive adjectives and adverbs to help create more clear pictures in your readers' minds?

SENTENCE FLUENCY

- Have you used different types of sentences - some short, some longer?
- Do your sentences flow together well?

CONVENTIONS

- Have you checked the spelling in your piece to the best of your ability? (If it is a draft on the computer, have you used Spellcheck?)
- Have you used capital letters correctly at the beginnings of sentences and for proper nouns?
- Have you used a variety of correct punctuation to help the reader understand your meaning?

PRESENTATION

- Have you chosen an appropriate way to present your writing?
- Is there a better, more creative way, to present your writing?