

Six Traits Rubric Sample (Grading for composition)

Teachers may choose as many traits as they wish to grade, depending on the assignment and level of ability of the students being taught. Most teachers will not use all six traits at once.

Ideas _____ (____/____)

Unclear Hungry for detail What's the main point? Confusing	Clear Rich with detail Focused Easy to Understand			
A beginning but needs revision	Promising	Halfway Home	Almost	Did it!

Organization: _____ (____/____)

Where are we headed? No real lead Hard to follow Missing transitions No real ending	Strong sense of direction Engaging lead Logical sequencing Clear transitions Powerful ending			
A beginning but needs revision	Promising	Halfway Home	Almost	Did it!

Voice: _____ (____/____)

Where's the human voice? Flat Is anyone home? Audience? What Audience? Writer sounds bored Tone not appropriate for topic/audience	Passionate Energetic Expressive Speaks to the audience Has "flavor" Tone fits topic/audience			
A beginning but needs revision	Promising	Halfway Home	Almost	Did it!

Word Choice _____(____/____)

	Vague Cliches Jargon Tech words not defined What does it mean?			Precise Vivid, original Natural Memorable Easy to understand
A beginning but needs revision	Promising	Halway Home	Almost	Did it!

Sentence Fluency _____(____/____)

	Repetitive patterns Choppy sentences/run-ons Tough to read aloud Can't hear the beat			Varied sentence patterns Long mixed with short Easy flow Cadence and rhythm
A beginning but needs revision	Promising	Halway Home	Almost	Did it!

Conventions _____(____/____)

	Numerous errors Tough going Errors bothersome Heavy editing lies ahead			Sound mechanics/minimal errors Easy to process No serious distractions Light touch-ups will fix it
A beginning but needs revision	Promising	Halway Home	Almost	Did it!