

Writing Assessment

To help assess student writing, there are rubrics for each week’s writing lesson. The rubric is a checklist of traits and skills that students use to monitor their progress and teachers use to assess the final products. These rubrics are located in the Writing Rubrics and Anchor Papers Assessment book.

EXPOSITORY COMPOSITION

Rubric	6	5	4	3	2	1
Focus/Ideas	Clear, focused composition; stays on topic and presents essential information	Clear, focused composition; stays on topic	Clear, focused composition	Composition stays mostly on topic	Some repeated or off-topic information; leaves reader with several big questions	Composition lacking clarity, focus, and essential information
Organization/Paragraphs	Paragraphs organized around a main idea with strong topic sentences and supporting details	Paragraphs organized with strong topic sentences and supporting details	Paragraphs organized around a main idea	Good paragraphs with clear topic sentences including main ideas with supporting details	Some paragraphs with unclear or missing topic sentences, few supporting details	No paragraphs; no topic sentences, main ideas, or supporting details
Voice	Involved throughout; engages reader	Engages reader	Involved throughout	Involved most of the time	Tries to be involved	No involvement
Word Choice	Exact, descriptive; conveys strong impressions	Exact, descriptive word choice	Conveys strong impressions	Clear language; conveys strong impressions	Some vague or repetitive words	Incorrect or limited word choice
Sentences	Varied, well-crafted sentences	Fluent sentences; some variety	Some variety in sentences	Little sentence variety	Many short, choppy sentences	Many fragments and run-ons
Conventions	Excellent control and accuracy	Good control; few errors	Fair control; some errors	Limited control; few errors	Errors that happen understanding	Errors that obstruct meaning

Review

This guide explained the Reading Street and Calle de la Lectura Texas 2011 comprehensive writing programs. Skills and knowledge that students learn and practice as they read are applied as they write. The Reader’s and Writer’s Notebooks help incorporate writing into each lesson.

In kindergarten, modeled, shared, and independent writing happen weekly. In Grades 1–6, mentor texts and model writing assist students. Teachers build students’ writing abilities through Quick Writes for Fluency and mini-lessons. Also, teachers have the option to customize instruction by making weekly lessons biweekly and incorporating 21st Century Skills. Remember, the digital path journal writing assignments are another way to incorporate additional writing practice.