

Writing Achievement at a Glance
Grades 2, 3 and 4 Appropriate Writing Achievement

	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
	Content	Content	Content
Overall Topic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choose a general topic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select a specific topic (may be broad and challenging to manage) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrow topic to a main idea (central message may not be readily apparent)
Degree of Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideas and events are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Straightforward but not explicit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideas and Events are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Straightforward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideas and Events are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Straightforward
Related Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some supporting details, may have gaps or irrelevant information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant details support the ideas (may include unnecessary information) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant details support the ideas (may lack clarity and/or pertinence)
	Organization	Organization	Organization
Text Form	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select an appropriate form 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select an appropriate form
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decide upon a general purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decide upon a purpose in introduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a purpose in introduction
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of basic sequencing Link ideas with simple connecting words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of logical sequencing Link ideas with simple ordering and connecting words and phrases (some connections may not be clear) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of logical sequencing Linking of ideas with ordering and connecting words and phrases
Paragraphs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begin to group ideas/events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups key ideas/events together Some evidence of conventional paragraphing
Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attempted but may be abrupt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included but may be abrupt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included but may not sum up ideas/events
	Word Choice	Word Choice	Word Choice
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many ordinary word choices with some repetition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A few precise and interesting words with little repetition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A few precise and interesting words
Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May include some descriptive vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes some descriptive vocabulary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some technical language Includes a few descriptive words Include a few varied verb choices
	Voice	Voice	Voice
Author's style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Begins to show some awareness of audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show some awareness of audience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show some awareness of audience
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic knowledge of and/or interest in subject 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General knowledge of, and interest in subject 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of, and interest in subject
Personality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conveys: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A glimpse of personal feeling ○ A glimpse of personal style 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conveys: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Personal feeling ○ Personal style 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conveys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General feeling/mood ○ Personal style
	Sentence Structure	Sentence Structure	Sentence Structure
Variety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly simple and compound sentence structures, many are complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly complete sentence types and structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some run-on/incomplete sentences in complex structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mostly complete sentence types and structures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some run-on/incomplete sentences in complex structures
Complexity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some longer sentences/sentences that begin in different ways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of lengths and beginnings to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create a mechanical text due to limited variation in pattern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variety of lengths and beginnings to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Create a few effective transitions
	Conventions	Conventions	Conventions
Punctuation and Capitalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correct end punctuation in many instances Correct capitalization of proper nouns, first word of the sentence and the pronoun "I" in the majority of instances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correct end punctuation in the majority of instances Attempted use of commas and apostrophes Attempted use of quotation marks in direct speech (may overuse or under use) Correct capitalization of proper nouns, first word of the sentence and the pronoun "I" in the majority of instances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correct end punctuation in the majority of instances Correct use of commas and apostrophes in most instances Correct capitalization of proper nouns, first word of the sentence and the pronoun "I" in the majority of instances Correct use of quotation marks in the majority of instances
Spelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spell many high frequency words correctly Attempt to spell more complex words using phonetic approximations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spell most high frequency words correctly May spell more complex words phonetically, but they are recognizable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spell many familiar words correctly Uses visual/sound patterns to make close approximations of unfamiliar words
Standard grammatical structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use many basic pronouns and verbs correctly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simple grammatical structures generally correct Common subject-verb agreement Basic use of pronouns (e.g., Joe and I) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic subject/verb agreements Basic use of regular verb tenses Basic use of pronouns (e.g., Joe and I)