

# Student-Friendly Writing Criteria

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions: (1) Read the paper all the way through.  
 (2) Read each criteria item and enter “Y” for “Yes”; “N” for “No”; “S” for “Sort Of.”

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>IDEAS</b> <i>Interesting Things to Say</i></p> <p>_____ It all makes sense.</p> <p>_____ The writer knows this topic well.</p> <p>_____ The writer has included interesting details not everyone would think of.</p> <p>_____ The paper has purpose.</p> <p>_____ Once you start reading, you won't want to stop.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ORGANIZATION</b> <i>The Way it Goes Together</i></p> <p>_____ It starts out with a bang!</p> <p>_____ Everything ties together well (probably uses transitions).</p> <p>_____ It builds to the good parts.</p> <p>_____ You can follow it easily.</p> <p>_____ At the end it feels finished and makes you think.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>VOICE</b> <i>Sounds Like You Talking</i></p> <p>_____ It sounds like a real person wrote it.</p> <p>_____ You can tell the writer cares about the topic.</p> <p>_____ This is what the writer really thinks.</p> <p>_____ The writer wants you to read this and feel something.</p> <p>_____ You can tell that the writer was thinking about the audience.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Word Choice</b> <i>The Best Words for Your Ideas</i></p> <p>_____ This is the best way to say this.</p> <p>_____ The writer's words make pictures in your mind.</p> <p>_____ The writer uses words that are new ways to say everyday things.</p> <p>_____ The writer's verbs are powerful; the writer's nouns and adjectives are specific and precise.</p> <p>_____ Some of the words linger in your mind after you read them.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sentence Fluency</b> <i>The Way it Sounds When You Read it Out Loud</i></p> <p>_____ The writer's sentences begin in different ways.</p> <p>_____ Some sentences are long; some are short.</p> <p>_____ It sounds good as you read it.</p> <p>_____ The writer's sentences have power and punch.</p> <p>_____ The writing flows easily from sentences to sentence.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Conventions</b> <i>Spelling, Grammar, Punctuation, Capitals, Etc.</i></p> <p>_____ The writer uses capitals correctly.</p> <p>_____ Periods, commas, exclamation marks, and quotation marks are in the right places.</p> <p>_____ Almost every word is spelled correctly.</p> <p>_____ The writer indented each paragraph.</p> <p>_____ The writer's spelling, punctuation, grammar, and capitalization make the paper easy to read and understand.</p>