

6 + 1 Traits

For Writing

1. **Ideas**: The ideas are the heart of the message, the content of the piece, the main theme, together with the details that enrich and develop that theme.

2. **Organization**: Organization is the internal structure of a piece of writing, the thread of central meaning, the logical and sometimes intriguing pattern of the ideas. The piece has a beginning, middle and an end.

3. **Voice**: The voice is the heart and soul, the magic, the will, along with the feeling and conviction of the individual writer coming out through the words. The reader should feel the enthusiasm of the writer.

4. **Word Choice**: Word choice is the use of rich, colorful, precise language that moves and enlightens the reader.

5. **Sentence Fluency**: Sentence fluency is the rhythm and flow of the language, the sound of word patterns, and the way in which the writing plays to the ear - not just to the eye. The sentences should be clear and easy to read.

6. **Conventions**: Conventions are the mechanical correctness of the piece - spelling, grammar and usage, paragraphing, use of capitals, and punctuation.

+1 Presentation: Presentation zeros in on the form and layout of the text and its readability: the piece should be pleasing to the eye.