

## Six Traits Paragraph Writing Rubric

Traits	1 Beginning	2 Emerging	3 Developing	4 Proficient	5 Strong	6 Exemplary
<b>Idea</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>main theme</li> <li>supporting details</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lacks central idea</li> <li>Development is minimal or nonexistent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Purpose and main idea may be unclear and cluttered by irrelevant detail</li> <li>May be unclear because paragraph has competing ideas for thesis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Main idea may be cloudy because supporting detail is too general or even off-topic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evident main idea with some support which may be general or limited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A main idea or topic is clear</li> <li>Clear, focused, interesting idea with appropriate detail</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paragraph centred around a significant idea or topic</li> <li>Exceptionally clear, focused, engaging with relevant, strong supporting detail</li> </ul>
<b>Organization</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>structure</li> <li>introduction</li> <li>conclusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of coherence; confusing</li> <li>No identifiable beginning or ending</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of structure; disorganized and hard to follow</li> <li>Appears to start or stop in the middle of something</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attempts at organization; may be a "list" of items</li> <li>Beginning and ending not clear</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organization is appropriate, but conventional</li> <li>Attempt at introduction and conclusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong order and structure</li> <li>Inviting intro and satisfying closure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effectively organized in logical and creative manner</li> <li>Creative and engaging intro and conclusion</li> </ul>
<b>Voice</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>personality</li> <li>sense of audience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing is lifeless</li> <li>No hint of the writer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing tends to be flat or stiff</li> <li>Stereotypic, copied tone and voice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Voice may be inappropriate or non-existent</li> <li>Writing may seem mechanical</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evident commitment to topic</li> <li>Inconsistent or formulaic personality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appropriate to audience and purpose</li> <li>Writer behind the words comes through</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expressive, engaging, sincere</li> <li>Strong sense of audience</li> <li>Shows emotion: humor, honesty, suspense or life</li> </ul>
<b>Word Choice</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>precision</li> <li>effectiveness</li> <li>imagery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited range of words</li> <li>Some vocabulary misused</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monotonous, often repetitious, sometimes inappropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Words may be correct but mundane</li> <li>Common words chosen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language is functional and appropriate</li> <li>Descriptions may be overdone at times</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Descriptive, broad range of words</li> <li>Word choice energizes writing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Precise, carefully chosen</li> <li>Strong, fresh, vivid images</li> </ul>
<b>Sentence Fluency</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>rhythm, flow</li> <li>variety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Difficult to follow or read aloud</li> <li>Disjointed, confusing, rambling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Often choppy</li> <li>Monotonous sentence patterns</li> <li>Frequent runon sentences</li> <li>Some sentence fragments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some awkward constructions</li> <li>Common simple pattern used</li> <li>Several sentences begin the same way</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally in control</li> <li>Lacks variety in length and structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Easy flow and rhythm</li> <li>Good variety in length and structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High degree of craftsmanship</li> <li>Effective variation in sentence patterns</li> </ul>
<b>Conventions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>age appropriate for spelling, caps, punctuation, grammar</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerous errors distract the reader and make the text difficult to read</li> <li>Errors may be made more than one way for the same pattern or structure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequent significant errors may impede readability</li> <li>Errors frequent in common patterns and structures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited control of conventions</li> <li>Some errors in common patterns or structures do not unduly interfere with understanding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control of most writing conventions</li> <li>Errors reflect risks with unusual or sophisticated structures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong control of conventions</li> <li>Errors are few and minor</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exceptionally strong control of standard conventions of writing</li> <li>Complex conventions attempted</li> </ul>