Name _____ Piece _____

Trait	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ideas meaning and development of the message						
Organization internal structure of the piece						
Voice way the writer brings the topic to life						
Word Choice specific vocab. the writer uses to convey the message						
Sentence Fluency way the words and phrases flow throughout the text						
Conventions mechanical correctness of the piece						

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Six Traits Writing Rubric

	6 Exemplary	5 Strong	4 Proficient	3 Developing	2 Emerging	1 Beginning
Ideas & Content ✍ *main theme* ✍ *supporting details*	• Exceptionally clear, focused, engaging with relevant, strong supporting detail	• Clear, focused, interesting ideas with appropriate detail	• Evident main idea with some support which may be general or limited	• Main idea may be cloudy because supporting detail is too general or even off-topic	• Purpose and main idea may be unclear and cluttered by irrelevant detail	• Lacks central idea; development is minimal or non-existent
Organization ✍ *structure* ✍ *introduction* ✍ *conclusion*	• Effectively organized in logical and creative manner • Creative and engaging intro and conclusion	• Strong order and structure • Inviting intro and satisfying closure	• Organization is appropriate, but conventional • Attempt at introduction and conclusion	• Attempts at organization; may be a "list" of events • Beginning and ending not developed	• Lack of structure; disorganized and hard to follow • Missing or weak intro and conclusion	• Lack of coherence; confusing • No identifiable introduction or conclusion
Voice ✍ *personality* ✍ *sense of audience*	• Expressive, engaging, sincere • Strong sense of audience • Shows emotion: humour, honesty, suspense or life	• Appropriate to audience and purpose • Writer behind the words comes through	• Evident commitment to topic • Inconsistent or dull personality	• Voice may be inappropriate or non-existent • Writing may seem mechanical	• Writing tends to be flat or stiff • Little or no hint of writer behind words	• Writing is lifeless • No hint of the writer
Word Choice ✍ *precision* ✍ *effectiveness* ✍ *imagery*	• Precise, carefully chosen • Strong, fresh, vivid images	• Descriptive, broad range of words • Word choice energizes writing	• Language is functional and appropriate • Descriptions may be overdone at times	• Words may be correct but mundane • No attempt at deliberate choice	• Monotonous, often repetitious, sometimes inappropriate	• Limited range of words • Some vocabulary misused
Sentence Fluency ✍ *rhythm, flow* ✍ *variety*	• High degree of craftsmanship • Effective variation in sentence patterns	• Easy flow and rhythm • Good variety in length and structure	• Generally in control • Lack variety in length and structure	• Some awkward constructions • Many similar patterns and beginnings	• Often choppy • Monotonous sentence patterns • Frequent run-on sentences	• Difficult to follow or read aloud • Disjointed, confusing, rambling
Conventions ✍ *age appropriate, spelling, caps, punctuation, grammar*	• Exceptionally strong control of standard conventions of writing	• Strong control of conventions; errors are few and minor	• Control of most writing conventions; occasional errors with high risks	• Limited control of conventions; frequent errors do not interfere with understanding	• Frequent significant errors may impede readability	• Numerous errors distract the reader and make the text difficult to read