

THE ANALYTICAL WRITING TRAITS

M.O.V.I.E.S.



DIRECTIONS: Score your paper using the following guidelines. For each writing trait, give a score from 1(low) - 6(high). Listed below are a few descriptions for each writing trait that will help you score the writing. All of these traits are equally important in a finished paper. Decide whether you believe your writing is in the top half (4-6) or the lower half (1-3) of the rubric. Resist giving a 2.5, 3.5, 4.5... making yourself decide on a whole number. A score of 4 is considered “functional.”

MECHANICS (M.)

6 Mostly Correct

There are very few errors in my paper; it wouldn't take long to get this ready to publish.

3/4 About Halfway Home

A number of bothersome mistakes in my paper need to be cleaned up before I am ready to publish.

1 Editing Not Under Control Yet

It would take a first reading to decode, and then a second reading to get the meaning of my paper.

ORGANIZATION (O.)

6 Clear and Compelling Direction

I've chosen an order that works well and makes the reader want to find out what is coming next.

3/4 Some Really Smooth Parts, Others Need Work

The order of my story/paper makes sense most of the time.

1 Not Shaped Yet

The order in my paper is jumbled and confused. I'm feeling dizzy!

VOICE (V.)

6 Really Individual and Powerful

My paper has lots of personality. It sounds different from the way anyone else writes.

3/4 Individuality Fades In and Out

What I truly think and feel only shows sometimes.

1 Not Me Yet

I'm not comfortable sharing what I truly think and feel yet.

IDEAS (I.)

6 Focused, Clear, and Specific

My writing is full of the kinds of details that keep the reader's attention and show what is important about my topic.

3/4 Some Really Good Parts, Some Not There Yet

The reader usually knows what I mean. Some parts will be better when I tell just a little more about what is important.

1 Just Beginning to Figure Out What I Want to Say

When someone else reads my paper, it will be hard for them to understand what I mean or what it is all about.

EFFECTIVE WORD CHOICE (E.)

6 Extremely Clear, Visual, and Accurate

I picked just the right words for just the right places.

3/4 Correct But Not Striking

The words in my paper get the message across, but don't capture anyone's imagination or attention.

1 Confusing, Misused Words, and Phrases Abound

My reader is often asking, "What did you mean by this?"

SENTENCE FLUENCY (S.)

6 Varied and Natural

The sentences in my paper are clear and delightful to read aloud.

3/4 Routine and Functional

Some sentences are choppy or awkward, but most are clear.

1 Needs Work

Because there isn't enough "sentence sense" yet, this paper is difficult to read aloud, even with practice.

Mechanics	Organization	Voice	Ideas & Content	Effective Word Choice	Sentence Fluency

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KEY: (A = 31 - 36) (B = 25 - 30) (C = 19 - 24) (D = 13 - 18)