

Six Traits Writing Rubric

Sentence Fluency	Level 4
	<p>Sentences are well built, with strong and varied structures that invite oral reading. The writer does most or all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shows stylistic control; dialogue and fragments, if used, sound natural • utilizes appropriate cadence for the genre • varies the sentence structure, length, and beginnings to strengthen the meaning of the text and draw attention to key ideas
	Level 3
	<p>The text flows; sentence patterns are somewhat varied and contribute to the ease of reading aloud. The writer does most or all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shows occasional lapses in stylistic control; dialogue, if used, may sometimes sound stilted • moves the reader easily through the text, though perhaps without rhythm or grace • varies patterns of sentence structure, length, and beginnings; sentences are functional but may sometimes lack energy
	Level 2
<p>The sentence structure tends to be mechanical rather than fluid; occasional awkward constructions may force the reader to slow down or reread. The writer does most or all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shows little awareness of stylistic control; dialogue does not sound natural; run-ons and/or fragments may impede readability • forces the reader to reread in place in order to make sense of the writing • uses limited variety in sentence structure, length, and beginnings but may fall into repetitious patterns; structures may sometimes cause reader to hunt for meaning 	
Level 1	
<p>The writing is difficult to follow or read aloud; sentences tend to be incomplete, run-on, or awkward. The writer does most or all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shows no awareness of stylistic control; confusing word order is often jarring and/or irregular • requires the reader to reread several times in order to make sense of the writing • uses little or no variety in sentence structure, length, and beginnings; sentence structure may obscure meaning 	

Notes/Comments: