

Student Assessment of Writing Skills – Scoring Guide – Grade 3 Targets

Informative: Letter Written to a Topic—Communicates ideas and information to an audience using a specific format

SKILLS	3	2	1	0
<p>Idea Development The writer develops the content of the message through the use of details.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develops a clear and focused main idea in response to the topic Uses descriptive details to enrich idea development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presents a main idea in response to the topic Uses relevant details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attempts to present a main idea in response to the topic Limited use of relevant details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No response to the topic; main idea is unclear Details are consistently irrelevant
<p>Organization The writer builds the structure to support the purpose and effectiveness of the writing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing is presented in appropriate letter format Uses a topic sentence; effectively organizes similar ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing is presented in appropriate letter format Uses a topic sentence; similar ideas are grouped together 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attempts to use letter format Similar ideas are grouped together without a topic sentence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter format is unidentifiable Similar ideas are not grouped together; no evidence of a topic sentence
<p>Voice The writer uses descriptive, original language to communicate directly to the audience in a way that is individual, compelling, and engaging.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter consistently reveals personal voice appropriate to the purpose Uses a variety of descriptive words or phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter reveals personal voice appropriate to the purpose Uses descriptive words or phrase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter reveals limited personal voice appropriate to the purpose Demonstrates little variation in word choice and/or repetitious use of simple words and phrases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter is flat and lifeless Uses an extremely limited range of words or phrases or consistently uses words incorrectly
<p>Conventions The writer develops the mechanical correctness of the piece including spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses grade-appropriate spelling consistently Uses grade-appropriate capitalization and punctuation consistently Uses grade-appropriate grammar and usage consistently Uses varied and mostly correct sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses grade-appropriate spelling Uses grade-appropriate capitalization and punctuation Uses grade-appropriate grammar and usage Attempts to use varied sentences; sentences are mostly correct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spells common words correctly, but other grade-appropriate words incorrectly Uses limited grade-appropriate capitalization or punctuation Demonstrates limited control of grade-appropriate grammar and usage Sentences are simple and lack variety; inconsistently uses correct sentences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misspells common words Demonstrates incorrect use of grade-appropriate capitalization or punctuation throughout Demonstrates incorrect use of grade-appropriate grammar and usage throughout Sentences are run-on, incomplete, or fragmented