

## Berlin Grades 3-12 Writing Rubric

	<b>1</b> <b>Experimenting</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Emerging</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Developing</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Effective</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Strong</b>
<b>IDEAS</b> The meaning and development of the message	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No clear sense of topic</li> <li>No supportive details</li> <li>Disconnected, random ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited development of topic</li> <li>Few supportive details</li> <li>May move between several ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General topic development</li> <li>Details present but not precise</li> <li>Ideas are reasonably clear</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Narrow and manageable topic development</li> <li>Credible details with some support</li> <li>Ideas are well developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearly focused topic development</li> <li>Relevant, accurate details</li> <li>Ideas are original and insightful</li> </ul>
<b>Organization</b> The internal structure of the piece	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No lead or conclusion</li> <li>Sequencing and pacing not present</li> <li>Structure: lacks direction and is hard to follow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ineffective lead and conclusion</li> <li>Sequencing and pacing confusing</li> <li>Structure: attempted, but awkward</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine lead and conclusion</li> <li>Sequencing and pacing somewhat logical</li> <li>Structure: routine/basic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective lead and conclusion</li> <li>Sequencing and pacing well controlled</li> <li>Structure: clear and logical</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inviting lead and satisfying conclusion</li> <li>Sequencing and pacing exceptional</li> <li>Structure: enhances ideas</li> </ul>
<b>Voice</b> The way the writer brings the topic to life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing is flat and lifeless</li> <li>Distanced reader/writer connection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing is safe and mechanical</li> <li>Writer attempts to engage reader</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing is credible</li> <li>Reader/writer connection fades in and out</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing reveals writer's commitment to the topic</li> <li>Strong reader/writer connection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing is passionate, engaging and compelling</li> <li>Dynamic reader/writer connection</li> </ul>
<b>Word Choice</b> The specific vocabulary the writer uses to convey the meaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited use of vocabulary</li> <li>Language may be used incorrectly</li> <li>Redundancy problems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vocabulary is developing</li> <li>Attempts to use language correctly with some errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language and vocabulary is functional but general</li> <li>Attempts at colorful language</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Language and vocabulary is effective with varied words and phrases</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Words convey the intended message in a vivid, powerful, precise, and interesting way</li> </ul>
<b>Sentence Fluency</b> The way the words and phrases flow throughout the text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choppy, rambling, or incomplete sentences</li> <li>No "sentence sense"</li> <li>Oral reading not possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some simple sentences</li> <li>Occasional use of connecting words</li> <li>Oral reading difficult</li> <li>Repetitive beginnings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attempts compound and complex sentences</li> <li>Sentences usually connect</li> <li>Oral reading a bit choppy</li> <li>Sentences begin differently</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begins to have an easy flow and rhythm</li> <li>Correct use of sentence length and structure</li> <li>Oral reading encourages expression in places</li> <li>Sentences well crafted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Polished rhythm, cadence, and flow</li> <li>Sentence length and type vary and transition well from one to the next</li> <li>Invites expressive reading</li> <li>Sentences enhance meaning</li> </ul>
<b>Conventions</b> To include: grammar, punctuation, spelling, capitalization, and paragraphing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frequent errors that contribute to difficulty reading</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some errors impede readability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Control over a limited range of conventions.</li> <li>Errors present, but they do not impede readability.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solid grasp of conventions</li> <li>Minor errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective use of conventions that enhance style and readability</li> </ul>