

6+1 Traits of Writing: What Quality Writing Possesses!

#1—Ideas/The Main Message

- Ideas are UNIQUE, interesting, and appealing to the audience
- Ideas are logical and purposeful
- Ideas are connected to a main message/thesis

#2—Organization

- The internal structure of the piece
- The writing is logical and effective for its purpose
- The organization connects ideas from the intro through the ending

#3—Voice

- The personal tone and flavor of an author
- Writing reflects the author's personality
- Writing is individual, authentic, honest
- Tone is considered and based on purpose and audience
- Preferred style techniques are utilized

#4—Word Choice

- The vocabulary the writer uses to convey meaning
- Specific is terrific! Concise is nice.
- Appropriate language based on purpose.
- Strong verbs, vivid language
- Thesaurus is always paired with a dictionary

#5—Sentence Fluency

- Variety in sentence types, structures, length, style, and beginnings
- Smooth, musical, flow to words when read aloud
- Easy to follow/understand

#6—Conventions

- Editing for Grammar, Usage, Mechanics, Spelling

+1—Presentation

- How the writing actually looks on a page
- Visual appeal of writing piece
- Polished and well-designed