

Language Conventions

Scoring Criteria

Sentence Structure

- Uses complete sentences
- Uses correct word order in sentences

Grammar

- Uses various parts of speech, including nouns and verbs, correctly

Punctuation

- Uses commas with dates and items in a series
- Uses quotation marks correctly

Capitalization

- Capitalizes all proper nouns
- Capitalizes words at the beginning of sentences
- Capitalizes months and days of the week, and titles and initials of people

Spelling

- Spells frequently used, irregular words correctly (e.g., *was, were, says, said, who, what, why*)
- Spells basic short-vowel, long-vowel, r-controlled, and consonant-blend patterns correctly

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- Meets previous grade levels' language convention standards

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Writing Strategies

Scoring Criteria

- Writes clear and coherent sentences and paragraphs
- Develops a central idea
- Considers the audience
- Considers the purpose
- Progresses through the stages of the writing process (e.g., prewriting, drafting, revising, editing successive versions)

Organization and Focus

- Groups related ideas
- Maintains a consistent focus

Penmanship

- Creates a readable document with legible handwriting

Evaluation and Revision

- Revises original drafts to improve sequence
- Revises original drafts to provide more descriptive detail

Research

Understands the purposes of various reference materials (e.g., dictionary, thesaurus, atlas)

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