


6 Traits of Writing

The 6 Traits and Strategies to Use Them

What are they?

- Ideas
- Organization
- Voice
- Diction (Word Choice)
- Sentence Fluency
- Conventions

Ideas



- Heart of the message
- Reflect purpose, theme, content, main point
- Combine with support, elaboration, anecdotes, images, and DETAILS
- Build Understanding
- Hold reader's attention

Organization

- Structure
- Skeleton of the essay
- Use a graphic organizer!

Voice

- The reader-writer connection
- Gives writing life, energy, individuality, and zest
- Unique to the writer
- Includes:
 - Concern for the reader
 - Enthusiasm for the topic
 - Personal style

Diction

- Create meaning through language
- Find the “just right” word or phrase
- How many different ways can you say “big”?
 - Massive, Huge, Monumental, Enormous, Considerable, Numerous, Momentous, Prominent, Conspicuous, etc...
 - All mean big, but they have unique variations

Sentence Fluency

- Rhythm and beat of the language
- Fluent writing is graceful, varied, rhythmic – almost musical
- Easy to read aloud
- Vary structure and length
- Sentences flow into each other



Conventions

- Punctuation
- Spelling
- Grammar
- Capitalization
- Paragraph Indentation
- Proper conventions make a paper look polished
- Makes reading easier
- Enhances meaning
