

Revised 11/11/02

# Kid Friendly Writing Rubric

by Suzy Red <http://suzyred.com>

	Score Point 1	Score Point 2	Score Point 3	Score Point 4
<b>Focus &amp; Coherence</b> Does it make sense?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hard to understand...ideas jump around.</li> <li>▪ Introduction and conclusion are meaningless.</li> <li>▪ Not complete.</li> <li>▪ Extra information that is off the subject</li> <li>▪ You aren't clear about what you are saying about the prompt.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Your writing has <b>some</b> focus but may shift quickly from idea to idea. I can understand how your ideas fit together.</li> <li>▪ Your writing has some sense of completeness, but the <b>introduction</b> and conclusion are not helpful.</li> <li>▪ You give extra information that doesn't make your writing clearer or more interesting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Most parts are focused.</li> <li>▪ Clear links between ideas, not many jumps from one idea to the next.</li> <li>▪ It has a feeling of being complete.</li> <li>▪ The introduction and conclusion add interest and focus.</li> <li>▪ Most of your writing is good quality and helps me understand the ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Focused! The ideas fit together to form a whole.</li> <li>▪ Complete!</li> <li>▪ Good introduction &amp; conclusion</li> <li>▪ Most, if not all, of your writing leads to the end.</li> <li>▪ Good overall quality</li> </ul>
<b>Organization</b> Is it organized? Are your ideas in logical order? Do you make good transitions?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Few or no transitions</li> <li>▪ Not logical</li> <li>▪ It looks like you put your ideas into a bag, shook it up, and drew them out just any old way.</li> <li>▪ Your ideas are hard to follow because of extra words or repeated ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Your ideas don't always follow each other <b>logically</b></li> <li>▪ You need better transitions between your ideas.</li> <li>▪ Organization is weak.</li> <li>▪ You may have some extra words or repeated ideas, but I can still understand some of your ideas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Your sentences and paragraphs are mostly smoothly linked to each other with meaningful transitions.</li> <li>▪ You make mostly good links between ideas.</li> <li>▪ Mostly good organization</li> <li>▪ If you have extra words or repeated ideas, they don't keep the ideas from making sense in their logical order.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Your sentences and paragraphs are smoothly LINKED to each other with smooth, meaningful transitions.</li> <li>▪ Your PLAN helps make your ideas clear and interesting.</li> </ul>
<b>Depth of Development</b> How much detail and information did you give About your ideas?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ You give one or more ideas but don't develop them.</li> <li>▪ You give one or more ideas and try to develop them. However, I still can not understand your ideas.</li> <li>▪ You only write a plot <b>summary</b> of a published piece of writing, a movie, or a television show.</li> <li>▪ You leave out information, causing big gaps between ideas. These gaps keep me from understanding your ideas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ You make lists of ideas and don't explain them much so that I can't really understand and appreciate your ideas.</li> <li>▪ You write about one or more ideas and try to develop them, but you don't write from your heart about them.</li> <li>▪ You leave out small pieces of information that create little gaps between ideas, but I still understand what you mean.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Good clear ideas. Most of your ideas are elaborated.</li> <li>▪ You try to develop all of the ideas, but some are more developed than others.</li> <li>▪ For the most part, I understand and appreciate your ideas.</li> <li>▪ <b>You seem to be afraid to take risks and to write from your heart.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Wow! Your ideas are really clear and complete with lots of elaboration!</li> <li>▪ I really understand and appreciate your ideas.</li> <li>▪ The way you tell your ideas is thoughtful or <b>wise</b>.</li> <li>▪ You are not afraid to take risks, to write from YOUR HEART, to weave in YOUR unique experiences, or to make interesting connections between ideas.</li> <li>▪ Great quality! I loved reading it!</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Voice</b> Can I hear your personality? Does it sound original and real?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ You don't seem to care about your ideas, so I can't care either.</li> <li>▪ I can't HEAR YOUR voice in your writing.</li> <li>▪ It doesn't sound real or original.</li> <li>▪ I can't discover your personality or your heart.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In some places you make me feel like I know you, but you don't keep it up.</li> <li>▪ Some parts sound real and original, but I don't feel like I know you or your personality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ I feel connected to you through most of your writing.</li> <li>▪ Your writing mostly sounds real and original.</li> <li>▪ You let your personality come through your writing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Your writing grabs my <b>heart</b> or <b>mind</b>! You stir my passion, my sympathy, or my funny bone!</li> <li>▪ Your writing sounds real and original! I feel like I really KNOW YOU when I am reading your work!</li> </ul>
<p><b>Conventions</b> Is your spelling, capitalization, grammar, usage, sentence structure correct? Do your sentences make sense?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Your writing does not show me that you can correctly spell or capitalize.</li> <li>▪ You have many errors in grammar, usage, and sentence structure. All of this makes your writing very difficult to read.</li> <li>▪ You may have misused or left out words and phrases. Your awkward sentences keep me from understanding your ideas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ You have many spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, usage, and sentence structure errors in all of your composition. These mistakes make it harder for me to follow your ideas.</li> <li>▪ You may have included some simple or inaccurate words and phrases.</li> <li>▪ You may have some awkward sentences that keep me from understanding your ideas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mostly good spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, usage, and sentence structure. Your few, small mistakes, don't make a big difference in the way I follow your ideas.</li> <li>▪ Your words, phrases, and sentence structures the writer uses are generally appropriate and contribute to the overall effectiveness of the communication of ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Good spelling, capitalization, punctuation, grammar, usage, and sentence structure.</li> <li>▪ You take some chances by writing at high levels, but any errors in this do not keep me from following your ideas.</li> <li>▪ Your words, phrases, and sentences are very effective in helping your share your ideas.</li> </ul>

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