

Fourth Grade Writing Proficiency Guide

Student Name: _____

School Year _____

Proficiency Behaviors End of 1st Trimester Period	Proficiency Behaviors End of 2 nd Trimester Period	Proficiency Behaviors End of 3 rd Trimester Period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Composes ideas fluently. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses prewriting strategies to plan and organize ideas (story maps, story webs, outlines, and other graphic organizers). <input type="checkbox"/> Generates topics for writing independently. <input type="checkbox"/> Writing includes an opening that moves smoothly into the body of the writing and somewhat engages the reader. <input type="checkbox"/> Develops writings by categorizing ideas, organizing them into paragraphs and blending paragraphs into larger units of text some of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Writes complete sentences except for crafting purposes. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses more compound and complex sentence structures some of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Rereads to clarify message by adding or deleting information. <input type="checkbox"/> Revises word choices to utilize elements of style, such as word choice and sentence variations. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses similes and/or metaphors with some understanding of its usefulness. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses literary structure (book language, specialized vocabulary, or structures from texts) with some understanding. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses indent or block style most of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Writing includes a strong sense of closure some of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses correct subject/verb agreement and begins to use compound subjects, objects, and verbs. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses correct parts of speech some of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates accurate use of end punctuation and commas. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses dialogue correctly some of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates accurate use of capitalization some of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses conventional spelling most of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Includes diagrams, charts, and illustrations when needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses resources to check their writing (dictionary, checklist, and thesaurus). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Composes ideas fluently. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses prewriting strategies to plan and organize ideas (story maps, story webs, outlines, and other graphic organizers). <input type="checkbox"/> Generates topics for writing independently. <input type="checkbox"/> Writing includes an opening that moves smoothly into the body of the writing and engages the reader. <input type="checkbox"/> Develops writings by categorizing ideas, organizing them into paragraphs and blending paragraphs into larger units of text most of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Writes complete sentences except for crafting purposes. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses more compound and complex sentence structures some of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Rereads to clarify message by adding or deleting information. <input type="checkbox"/> Revises word choices to utilize elements of style, such as word choice and sentence variations. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses similes and/or metaphors with more understanding of its usefulness. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses literary structure (book language, specialized vocabulary, or structures from texts) with more understanding. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses indent or block style. <input type="checkbox"/> Writing includes a strong sense of closure some of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses correct subject/verb agreement and uses compound subjects, objects, and verbs some of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses correct parts of speech most of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates accurate use of end punctuation, commas and uses other punctuation with more accuracy. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses dialogue correctly most of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates accurate use of capitalization most of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Use conventional spelling. <input type="checkbox"/> Includes diagrams, charts, and illustrations when needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses resources to check their writing (dictionary, checklist, and thesaurus). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Composes ideas fluently. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses prewriting strategies to plan and organize ideas (story maps, story webs, outlines, and other graphic organizers). <input type="checkbox"/> Generates topics for writing independently. <input type="checkbox"/> Writing includes an opening that moves smoothly into the body of the writing and engages the reader. <input type="checkbox"/> Develops writings by categorizing ideas, organizing them into paragraphs and blending paragraphs into larger units of text. <input type="checkbox"/> Writes complete sentences except for crafting purposes. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses more compound and complex sentence structures most of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Rereads to clarify message by adding or deleting information <input type="checkbox"/> Revises word choices to utilize elements of style, such as word choice and sentence variations. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses similes and/or metaphors with greater understanding of its usefulness. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses appropriate literary structure (book language, specialized vocabulary, or structures from texts). <input type="checkbox"/> Uses indent or block style . <input type="checkbox"/> Writing includes a strong sense of closure some of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses correct subject/verb agreement and uses compound subjects, objects, and verbs most of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses correct parts of speech most of the time. <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates accurate use of end punctuation, commas and other uses punctuation with more accuracy. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses dialogue correctly. <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrates accurate use of capitalization. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses conventional spelling. <input type="checkbox"/> Includes diagrams, charts, and illustrations when needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Uses resources to check their writing (dictionary, checklist, and thesaurus).

The Purpose of a Writing Proficiency Guide and a Rubric

	Writing Proficiency Guide	Writing Rubric
Definition	<p>A writing proficiency guide is a tool used to observe the writing behaviors for a variety of genres that students exhibit on a daily basis.</p> <p>The teacher uses the guide to plan and provide daily whole group, small group, and one-on-one lessons for writers.</p> <p>The guide assists teachers to recognize and understand the developmental changes that occur over time as the writer becomes more competent in a particular area. (Dorn 2001)</p>	<p>The rubric is a tool to assist teachers to score a single piece of writing for a specific genre. The end score can be used to report how students are performing on that single piece of writing.</p>
The Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To observe students’ writing behaviors over the course of each trimester throughout the school year • To guide students’ writing development over time • To develop mini-lessons based on the writing process, skills, strategies, and to communicate effectively through writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To score students’ writing skills on a single piece of writing in a particular genre