

Revised 11/11/02

Kid Friendly TAKS Writing Rubric

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

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

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

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