



New Meridian

# MasteryGuide™ Assessment

Writing Practice Performance Task

Grades 3–8

Student-Friendly Writing Rubrics

## Grade 3 Student-Friendly Writing Rubric

How I Did	How my writing is put together (Organization)
3 Great Job	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I told my opinion or main idea clearly.</li> <li>• My ideas are grouped together in a way that makes sense.</li> <li>• I used linking words such as <i>also</i>, <i>and</i>, <i>another</i>, <i>but</i>, <i>like</i>, and <i>for example</i> to connect ideas.</li> <li>• I wrote a strong ending that fits my topic.</li> </ul>
2 Good Job	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I told my opinion or main idea, but it may not be super clear.</li> <li>• Most of my ideas are grouped together.</li> <li>• I used some linking words to connect ideas.</li> <li>• My ending mostly fits my topic.</li> </ul>
1 Needs Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My opinion or main idea is hard to find.</li> <li>• My ideas are mixed up or loosely connected.</li> <li>• I used only a few linking words, and not always in the right way.</li> <li>• My ending doesn't really match my topic.</li> </ul>
0 Not Yet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I didn't tell my opinion or main idea.</li> <li>• Very few of my ideas go together or connect with each other.</li> <li>• I didn't use linking words.</li> <li>• I don't have an ending, or it is hard to find.</li> </ul>

How I Did	How well I explained my ideas (Purpose and Development)
3 Great Job	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I stayed on topic and wrote for the right purpose.</li><li>• My reasons or facts are clear and make sense.</li><li>• I used important details and examples from the text to support my ideas.</li></ul>
2 Good Job	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I mostly stayed on topic.</li><li>• My reasons or facts are mostly clear.</li><li>• I used some important details and examples from the text.</li></ul>
1 Needs Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I sometimes got off topic.</li><li>• My reasons or facts are a little confusing or weak.</li><li>• I used only a few details or examples.</li></ul>
0 Not Yet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I didn't stay on topic.</li><li>• My ideas don't make sense.</li><li>• I didn't use any details or examples, or they don't connect to the topic.</li></ul>

How I Did	Capitalization, Punctuation, Grammar (Conventions)
2 Good Job	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I wrote enough sentences to show what I know about capital letters, punctuation, and grammar.</li><li>• I used capital letters, punctuation, and grammar correctly most of the time.</li><li>• Small mistakes don't make it hard to understand my writing.</li></ul>
1 Needs Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I made some mistakes with capital letters, punctuation, or grammar.</li><li>• Sometimes my mistakes make my writing confusing.</li><li>• My response is very short, but you can still understand my thinking.</li></ul>
0 Not Yet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I did not write enough sentences to show what I know about capital letters, punctuation, and grammar.</li><li>• My mistakes make my writing very hard to read and understand.</li></ul>

## Grade 3 Student-Friendly Checklist for Self-Assessment

### My writing is put together clearly. (Organization)

- ☐ I told my opinion or main idea clearly.
- ☐ I grouped my ideas together in a way that makes sense.
- ☐ I used linking words such as *also*, *and*, *another*, *but*, *like*, and *for example* to connect my ideas together.
- ☐ I wrote an ending that fits my topic.

### I explained my ideas well and wrote about the right topic. (Purpose and Development)

- ☐ I stayed on topic.
- ☐ I gave clear reasons and facts.
- ☐ I used important details and examples from the text.

### Other people can easily read and understand my writing. (Conventions)

- ☐ I wrote enough sentences to show what I know about capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.
- ☐ I used capital letters correctly.
- ☐ I ended my sentences with correct punctuation.
- ☐ I spelled words that make sense and fit my ideas.
- ☐ My sentences make sense.

## Grades 4–5 Student-Friendly Writing Rubric

How I Did	Organization
3 Great	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I told my opinion or main idea clearly.</li> <li>• My ideas are grouped together in paragraphs that make sense.</li> <li>• I used linking words such as <i>also</i>, <i>another</i>, <i>because</i>, <i>especially</i>, and <i>for example</i>, to connect ideas.</li> <li>• I wrote a strong ending that fits my topic.</li> </ul>
2 Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I told my opinion or main idea, but it may not be very clear.</li> <li>• My ideas are grouped together in paragraphs that mostly make sense.</li> <li>• I used some linking words to connect my ideas.</li> <li>• My ending mostly fits my topic.</li> </ul>
1 Needs Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My opinion or main idea is hard to find.</li> <li>• My ideas are mixed up or loosely connected.</li> <li>• I used only a few linking words, and not always in the right way.</li> <li>• My ending doesn't really match my topic.</li> </ul>
0 Not Yet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I didn't tell my opinion or main idea.</li> <li>• Very few of my ideas go together or connect with each other.</li> <li>• I didn't use linking words.</li> <li>• I don't have an ending, or it is hard to find.</li> </ul>

How I Did	Purpose and Development
3 Great	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I stayed on topic and wrote for the right purpose and people.</li><li>• My reasons or facts are clear and make sense.</li><li>• I used many important details, examples, or quotes from the text to clearly support and explain my ideas.</li></ul>
2 Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I mostly stayed on topic.</li><li>• My reasons or facts are mostly clear.</li><li>• I used some important details, examples, or quotes from the text to support and explain my ideas most of the time.</li></ul>
1 Needs Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I sometimes got off topic.</li><li>• My reasons or facts are a little confusing or weak.</li><li>• I used some details, examples, or quotes from the text, but they are not enough to support and explain my ideas clearly.</li></ul>
0 Not Yet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I didn't stay on topic.</li><li>• My ideas don't make sense.</li><li>• I used very few or no details, examples, or quotes, or they don't connect to the topic.</li></ul>

How I Did	Capitalization, Punctuation, Grammar (Conventions)
2 Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I wrote enough sentences to show what I know about capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.</li><li>• I used capitals, punctuation, and grammar correctly most of the time.</li><li>• I might make a few mistakes, but my writing still makes sense.</li></ul>
1 Needs Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I made some mistakes with capitals, punctuation, or grammar.</li><li>• Sometimes my mistakes make my writing a little confusing.</li><li>• My response is very short, but you can still understand my thinking.</li></ul>
0 Not Yet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I did not write enough sentences to show what I know about capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.</li><li>• My mistakes make it very hard for someone to read and understand my ideas.</li></ul>



## Grades 4–5 Student-Friendly Checklist for Self-Assessment

### Organization (My writing is very organized.)

- ☐ I made my opinion or main idea clear.
- ☐ I put my ideas together into paragraphs that make sense.
- ☐ I used linking words to connect my ideas and reasons.
- ☐ I wrote an ending that relates to my topic or opinion and wraps up my ideas.

### Purpose and Development (I completed the assignment, explaining and supporting my ideas with details from the text.)

- ☐ I stayed on topic and completed the assignment.
- ☐ I wrote for the right purpose and people.
- ☐ I gave clear reasons or facts that strongly support my opinion or main idea.
- ☐ I used the most important details, examples, and quotes from the text to support my ideas.

### Conventions (It is easy for others to read and understand my writing.)

- ☐ I wrote enough sentences to show what I know about capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.
- ☐ I used capital letters and punctuation correctly.
- ☐ I checked my spelling to make sure I used the correct words.
- ☐ My sentences make sense and are easy to understand.

## Grades 6–8 Student-Friendly Writing Rubric

Score	Organization
3 Excellent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I clearly introduced my main claim or central idea.</li> <li>• I organized my ideas, reasons, and evidence into paragraphs that build an argument or explanation.</li> <li>• I used effective transitions to connect my ideas and show how they relate.</li> <li>• I wrote a conclusion that connects to and follows from my ideas and evidence.</li> </ul>
2 Satisfactory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I introduced my main claim or central idea, but it isn't completely clear.</li> <li>• I organized my ideas, reasons, and evidence into paragraphs that mostly help my argument or explanation.</li> <li>• I used some transitions to connect my ideas and show how they relate.</li> <li>• I wrote a conclusion that mostly connects to my ideas and evidence.</li> </ul>
1 Developing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My main claim or central idea is unclear, or the reader has to guess.</li> <li>• I grouped some ideas, reasons, and evidence, but my paragraphs don't always make sense.</li> <li>• Sometimes I used transitions, but they don't always show how my ideas relate.</li> <li>• I wrote a conclusion, but it's hard to see how it connects to my reasons and evidence.</li> </ul>
0 Needs Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I didn't introduce a main claim or central idea, or it is difficult to find.</li> <li>• My ideas, reasons, and evidence are mixed up and confusing.</li> <li>• I used a few transitions, and they rarely show how my ideas relate.</li> <li>• I don't have a conclusion, or it is difficult to find.</li> </ul>

Score	Purpose and Development
<p>3 Excellent</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I explained the topic clearly and fully in a way that fits the assignment and is appropriate for my audience.</li> <li>• My ideas and reasons are clear and show a strong understanding of the topic and text.</li> <li>• I used the most important details, examples, and quotes from the text to support my ideas.</li> </ul>
<p>2 Satisfactory</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I explained the topic in a way that fits the assignment and is mostly clear and appropriate for my audience.</li> <li>• My reasons or facts are mostly clear and show an understanding of the topic and text.</li> <li>• I used some important details, examples, and quotes from the text to support my ideas.</li> </ul>
<p>1 Developing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I explained the topic in a way that partly fits the assignment but doesn't show much attention to my audience.</li> <li>• My ideas or reasons are somewhat unclear and show only some understanding of the topic or text.</li> <li>• I used a few details, examples, or quotes from the text, but they support only some of my ideas.</li> </ul>
<p>0 Needs Improvement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I explained the topic in a way that does not match the assignment and didn't consider my audience.</li> <li>• My ideas or reasons are unclear and show little understanding of the topic or text.</li> <li>• I did not use details, examples, or quotes from the text, or the ones I used don't support my ideas.</li> </ul>

Score	Knowledge of Language and Conventions
2 Satisfactory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I wrote enough sentences to show what I know about language and conventions.</li><li>• I used capitalization, punctuation, and grammar correctly most of the time.</li><li>• I might make a few mistakes, but my writing still makes sense.</li></ul>
1 Developing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I made some mistakes with capitalization, punctuation, or grammar.</li><li>• Sometimes my mistakes make my writing difficult to understand.</li><li>• My response is very short, but you can still understand my thinking.</li></ul>
0 Needs Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I did not write enough sentences to show what I know about language and conventions.</li><li>• My mistakes make it very hard for someone to read and understand my ideas.</li></ul>

## Grades 6–8 Student-Friendly Checklist for Self-Assessment

### Organization (My writing is well-organized.)

- ☐ I clearly introduced my claim or central idea.
- ☐ I organized my ideas, reasons, and evidence into paragraphs that make sense.
- ☐ I used transitions to connect my ideas and show how they relate.
- ☐ I wrote a conclusion that connects my reasons and evidence.

### Purpose and Development (My writing has a clear purpose, and my ideas are well developed.)

- ☐ I explained the topic clearly and fully in a way that fits the assignment.
- ☐ I wrote for the appropriate purpose and considered my audience.
- ☐ My ideas and reasons are clearly stated and explained, and they show that I understand the topic and text.
- ☐ I provided the most important details, examples, and quotes from the text to support my ideas.

### Knowledge of Language and Conventions (My writing shows that I understand conventions and can control the way I use language.)

- ☐ I wrote enough sentences to show what I know about language and conventions.
- ☐ I corrected errors in capitalization, punctuation, and grammar.
- ☐ I checked my spelling to make sure I used the correct words.
- ☐ My sentences are easy to read and understand.