

Traits in a Nutshell

Six Traits Student Checklist

IDEAS

- I have a MAIN message.
- I know a LOT about my topic.
- I share interesting DETAILS.
- It is EASY to tell what my paper is about.

ORGANIZATION

- Everything is in ORDER.
- I stay ON TOPIC.
- My paper starts with a good LEAD.
- It ends with a strong ENDING.

VOICE

- I LOVE how my paper sounds.
- This sounds like ME.
- My paper is LIVELY.
- My paper shows FEELINGS.
- I know who my AUDIENCE is.

WORD CHOICE

- I use some FAVORITE words.
- My words help my reader see, hear, feel, smell, or taste things.
- I do NOT repeat most words.
- I use STRONG VERBS for action.
- I use NEW words.

SENTENCE FLUENCY

- My sentences are COMPLETE.
- This is EASY to read out loud.
- My sentences begin in DIFFERENT ways.
- I used short AND long sentences.

CONVENTIONS

- I used my EYES to check my paper.
- I used my EARS to check my paper.
- I wrote my names and the title.
- I checked my spelling.
- I used CAPITALS to begin sentences.
- I used PERIODS to end sentences.
- I used QUESTION MARKS to end questions.
- I put spaces between my words.