

ISAT WRITING

Beginning 2007 – Grades 5 and 8

Beginning 2008 – Grade 6

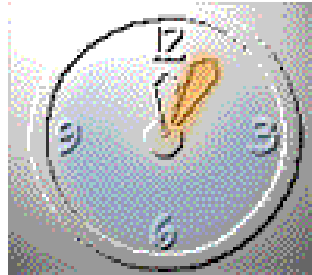
Beginning 2009 – Grade 3

Format

- **Grade 3** – One Expository Composition
- **Grade 5** – One Expository Composition
- **Grade 6** – One Narrative Composition and One Persuasive Composition
- **Grade 8** – One Narrative Composition and One Persuasive Composition



TIME



- Each Session will be 45 minutes in length with up to an additional 10 minutes if students are actively engaged at the end of the 45 minutes.

SCORING

- The Scoring Rubric is both analytic and holistic:
- **Analytic Feature –**
 - Focus, Support, Organization = 6 Points Each
 - Conventions = 3 Points
- **Holistic Feature –**
 - Integration = 12 Points

(**Scale = 6 – 33**)

CUT SCORES

Grade	Academic Warning	Below Standards	Meets Standards	Exceeds Standards
3	6-13	14-21	22-29	30-33
5	6-13	14-20	21-27	28-33
6	6-13	14-20	21-27	28-33
8	6-14	15-20	21-27	28-33

CHANGES IN THE RUBRIC

1. **Conventions Score**
2. Addition of **Voice**



CONVENTIONS

3 Points



- Strong knowledge of conventions
- Consistent spelling, punctuation, capitalization
- Uses a variety of sentence structures
- May have minor lapses

CONVENTIONS

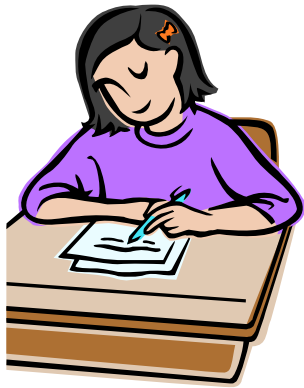
2 Points

- Partial knowledge of conventions
- Noticeable pattern of errors
- Little attempt at varying sentence structure



CONVENTIONS

1 Point



- Little or no knowledge of conventions
- Errors impair meaning
- Sentence structure is simplistic or in error
- Sufficiency may be an issue

CONVENTIONS STUDENT SAMPLE 1

Monkeys

→ Monkey are important. Do you know and animal that helps people?

→ First, Monkeys are very smart. They help track stuff down. They know ~~when~~ danger is coming.

→ Next, They are nice to people. They ^{like} getting hugged by people alot. They like playing with people.

→ Also, The like to entertain people. They like to entetain people by aktng funny. They -play died somtime.

→ Finally, Monkey are important. Do you know and animal that helps people?

Conventions Score of Sample 1

- Grade 3, Conventions Score 2
- While there are few errors other than spelling, there is no attempt to vary sentence structure which is required for a score of 3.

CONVENTIONS STUDENT SAMPLE 2

My favorite is when I do
keines is The wedding. And
When I do a good
job. And I read a book.
And I read a bathr book.
And I play in The
computer. And i got
a peis.

Conventions Score of Sample 2

- Grade 3, Conventions Score 1
- Errors in this sample impair meaning. Also, sufficiency is an issue.

CONVENTIONS STUDENT SAMPLE 3

I think my dad is a hero. He has given me lots of advice and helps me with my homework. He even makes all the family's money! My dad really helps me around in the world.

My dad gives me lots of advice on what to do in school. He helps me when I need him. This is very helpful to me. It could be helpful to anybody.

He also helps me with my homework when I ask him. This is very helpful, too. It's

Conventions Score of Sample 3

- Grade 3, Conventions Score 3
- This sample shows a strong knowledge of conventions at the third grade level. It also has varied sentence structure. There is a minor lapse in spelling which is allowed due to its consideration as a first draft.

CONVENTIONS STUDENT SAMPLE 4

The best day of school was when I was in Mrs. Gurns class. When I brought cookies to school for my birthday. First thing we did that day is we did some math which is my favorite subject. Then we wrote an essay I don't remember what it was on but I now we did an essay then we went to lunch and at lunch my mom packed me starbursts and Tostitos. I think she packed five of each. At lunch Recess I played with my best friend Lizzy after lunch Recess we went to gym and I think its a pretty bad idea to go to gym after lunch because you might throw up well anyway in gym I don't remember what we did.

Conventions Score of Sample 4

- Grade 8, Conventions Score 2
- Although there is a variety of sentence structures, there are also several run-on sentences. Misspelling of common words is frequent; however, meaning is not impaired so this sample is at the 2 level.

VOICE

**Expressive, Engaging
Writing**

**Sensing the Writer
Behind the
Words**

“Writing to be Read”



VOICE

- Compare the next two samples to see when voice is present in writing and when it is not present.

VOICE

Sample 1

Judie Steinhauser

justeinh@isbe.net

I would nominate Mr. Klein for the Most Admired Teacher Award. Here are my reasons. He won't let you give up, he lets you choose your team, and he doesn't yell.

When you have the basketball stolen from you when you are about to make a shot, Mr. Klein will tell you that winning doesn't matter. In any game he reassures you and gives you hope.

Most teachers will assign you a partner of the other gender, but Mr. Klein will let you pick your own partner so you don't get someone you hate. He may embarrass you if you are not paying attention. Some teachers call your parents and yell at you. Mr. Klein tells you to stop and gives you a warning, but he won't yell.

That's why I think Mr. Klein should win the Most Admired Teacher Award.

VOICE
Sample 2, Page 1

If I could, I would nominate Mr. Klien, the gym teacher for the Most Admired Teacher Award. There are three of many reasons why, if someone messes up, he won't let them give up. Second, instead of choosing teams or partners for you - he lets you choose your own. Also he doesn't yell.

You're dribbling the basket ball down the court, about to make a shot. All of a sudden someone from the other team comes up and steals the ball from you. You're devastated! Out of nowhere you hear a voice urging you on, the voice is from your gym teacher, Mr. Klien. He reassures you that you're doing fine and says winning doesn't matter. In any game, Mr. Klien will be there, urging, reassuring and giving you hope even if you don't mess up.

If right before a class, you and your best friend decide that you want to be partners, and then walk in the class and that teacher assigns you your partner. Most likely to be the other gender. On the other hand, Mr. Klien lets you pick your own partners or teams, so you won't be stuck with someone you hate.

VOICE
Sample 2, Page 2

partner. So you pick your friend and not be stuck with someone who you hate, and then you have fun.

Last, but certainly not least, he doesn't yell. He'll embarrass you some times if you're not following directions or not paying attention, but he never ever, ever, ever yells. Unlike some teachers who'll call your parents and yell at you, Mr. Klien will calmly tell you to stop, and gives you a warning but that's it. You won't walk out of the gym with ears hurting or any of that, he won't yell.

That's exactly why I know (not think) that Mr. Klien should win the Most Admired teacher award. Reassurance, partners/teams and

Voice Sample

The sample which follows also demonstrates voice, although it is not as strong as the previous sample.

Look at word choice and expression.

If I had a robot, it would do so many things! Like do my boring homework and my dirty chores. My robot would even give me advice.

Homework is boring, so if I had a robot it would do my homework. If my robot is doing my homework, I get to have fun playing with my friends. I wouldn't have to do science or math. Robots don't go to sleep either, so when I'm asleep it would still be working on it. My robot would be able to do my chores too. The chores would be hard for me but not for her. It takes too long for me to do it, but a robot can go really fast. Plus I get really dirty and have to take a bath and I hate baths. I could always run her away.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Judie Steinhauser
ISBE

justeinh@isbe.net

217/782-4823

