

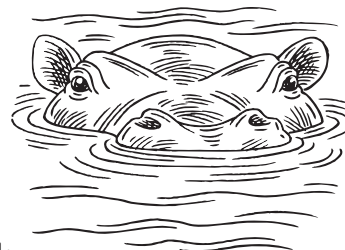
Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Good Writing Traits	5
Sample Scoring Rubric	8
Standards for Writing	9
Ideas and Content	11
Hippos—The Bloody Monster—The Hippo and You—The Floating Log—Hippo Movie—Animal Movie—Something Wrong—The Counterfeit—Open Wide—The Small Pet—Hippo Talk—An Interview (with You!)—Mystery Person—Super Character—A Host for Generations—Bridge Jump, Anyone?—New Weights—Face Time—Pet Rock—The Striped Cat—Diary History—Diary of an Observer—The Calculator—The Next Discovery—ABC Poem	
Word Choice	37
Silly or Absurd?—Great, Great, Great—Mosquito Researcher—Fence Painting—Scientist in the Water—The Escape Artist—English Lesson—The Right Time—Swimming the Amazon—Surfing—Place Setting—Lefty Lumpy—Noise—Frog Pond—Tulip Mania—Onion Soup—Ship at Sea—Bull in a China Shop—Grand Canyon Diary—Challenger Deep Diary—Time Capsule Letter—6939 Time Capsule—Paint Colors—Only One Color—Shape Poem	
Fluency	63
Wacky Wednesday—A to Z—Cockroaches—The Easy Pet—Talking Moon Rock—Storm at Sea—Stormy Words—The Trojan Horse—The Lifeguard—Swimming Rescue—Metric Mnemonics—Talking in Rhymes—Country Borders—Wedding Planner—Horse Meets Grizzly—Bear Encounter—Public Names—A Better Excuse—Where’s the “E”?—PB & J, but No “E”—Auction Chant—Sold!—The Day the Falls Went Dry—The Disappearing Clocks—Telephone	
Voice	89
Guinness World Records—Milk-Bottle Walk—The Great Date Robbery—Double Birthday—Trees—I Am the Tree—New Year’s Resolutions—Storybook Resolutions—The First Visitor—New Year, New Planet—Name Poem—Rat vs. Cat—Popcorn Lesson—Funny Riddles—Star Review—Another Version—Office on the Move—Inside an Elevator—200 to Milk—The Field Trip—Star Drawing—The Bear Cub—Jungle Scene—Fearful Night—Half Full?	
Organization	115
Long, Longer, Longest—Whale-Shark Ride—The Four Largest—Capital Tickets—Upside-Down Wonder—Animal Race—Two Dolphins—New Colors—The Messiest Festival—Dressed for the Festival—Country Comparison—Letter from Egypt—Three Ides—In Ancient Times—Her Deepness—Test Flight—From A to B—Space Adventure—Roy G. Biv—The Doctored Photo—Past, Present, Future—Chocolate Pudding—Running the Sahara—Out for a Run—Four Score	
Conventions	141
Hiding Penicillin—The Clever Crow—Unwanted Visitor—Yo-Yo Fishing—What’s Allowed?—Whether or Weather?—Separate Schools—The Thirteenth Task—Their, There, They’re—E-mail Scam—A Group of Sea Lions—An Empty Raft—Carl Sagan—Alien Conversation—When I Was . . .—Adventure—Strong Writing—Once Upon a Time—Got Milk?—Staying in School—The Lesson—Surprise Lesson—School Vending Machines—Vending-Machine Adventure—Titles	
Writing Prompts	167

The Floating Log

IMAGINE THAT!

Imagine that someone sees what appears to be a log or bunch of logs floating in a river. This person gets an unexpected surprise when the log or logs turn out to be hippos!



Activity: Write a story with the plot listed above. Use what you know about hippos to add details to your story.

Who is the person who thinks the hippos are logs? Why does he or she think so? How does the person find out what the logs really are? What happens when he or she find out?

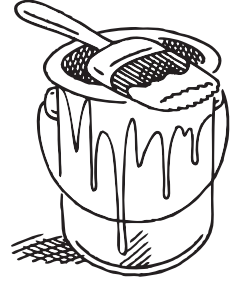
A large writing area with a decorative border that looks like a log with a textured surface. Inside the border are 18 horizontal lines for writing.

Paint Colors

Paint companies often create interesting names for their paints. Some of these names have no color words in them.

Activity: Look at the actual paint names below. Then, do the following:

1. Write down what color you think fits the name.
2. Tell where the color might be used.
3. Using lots of descriptive and action words, tell what feelings or pictures the company might have wanted you to make in your head when you heard the names.



Glacial Tint is a cold, icy white with just a hint of blue. It can be used in the office of a powerful business person. It makes one think of huge, massive, powerful glaciers that roll huge boulders as if they were pebbles and cut valleys out of mountains.

Warm Embrace is _____

Magic Moment is _____

Mermaid Treasure is _____

Tornado Watch is _____

Hey There! is _____

When you write, you do not want all of your sentences to be the same. You want to mix up long and short ones. You want to mix up their structures, too. This helps your writing flow, and it keeps your writing interesting.

See how two sentences can be changed into two different long ones:

Bilbo wears a special yellow jacket. He patrols a beach in England.

- Bilbo, **wearing** a special yellow jacket, patrols a beach in England.
- **Wearing** a special yellow jacket, Bilbo patrols the beach in England.



Combine the two sentences into one long one in the same way as the examples above.

1. Bilbo pulls a rescue float. He swims out to struggling swimmers.

A. Bilbo, p _____, s _____.

B. P _____, B _____.

2. Bilbo weighs 200 pounds. He is a Newfoundland dog.

A. Bilbo, w _____, i _____.

B. W _____, B _____.

Activity: Now it is your turn. Write two sets of sentences like the example above. Your sentences should be factual. They can be about you, someone you know, an animal, or anything you want.

Two short: _____

A. _____

B. _____

Two short: _____

A. _____

B. _____

Check: Did you remember to use commas?

Public Names

THINK ABOUT IT!

Sometimes cities will name buildings, roads, or parks after someone. The person may have been a president, astronaut, athlete, artist, scientist, or volunteer. Think of a real person. The person can be from the past or present. The person can be famous or known personally to you. Then think of something you think should be named for this person. It could be a road, park, forest, school, library, hospital, or anything you want.

Activity: Write a three-paragraph letter to the mayor. Remember that this is a formal letter, so you should include your address, the date, and the address of the mayor.

You will write your letter on the back of this paper. Use the space below to plan your letter. Follow this structure:

- **Paragraph One:** Tell why you are writing and who you are.
- **Paragraph Two:** Support your position. Tell what this person has done and why the location should be given his or her name. Tell how it will have a positive effect on the community.
- **Paragraph Three:** Thank the mayor for his or her time.



Paragraph One _____

Paragraph Two _____

Paragraph Three _____

Chocolate Pudding

IMAGINE THAT!

Imagine that a fictional character (or you) lives by a volcano. The volcano erupts. At first everyone thinks that it is lava flowing down the mountainside. Then you or the character discovers that it is chocolate pudding. (If you want, it can be some other substance that spews from the volcano.)

Activity: Write a story with three short paragraphs. In the first paragraph, describe the character, where they live, and something they are doing. Start the second paragraph with something like, “Boom! Suddenly . . .” Then describe the explosion and how people react. In the third paragraph, make up an ending that tells what people do with the pudding, if the volcano stops erupting, or even if something different comes out of the volcano in the next eruption.



.....



Table of Contents

Introduction to Teachers	3
Introduction	5
Reading and the Reading Journal	6
Finding a Topic	8
Finding a Topic: The Focus Ladder	9
Brainstorming	10
Webbing and Freewriting	13
Finding Information	15
Outlining	17
Who's Your Audience?	21
Writing Paragraphs	23
Using Transitions	24
Introductions and Conclusions	26
Writing Your Rough Draft	29
Editing, Revising, and Rewriting	33
Final Draft Rubric	38
Sample Essays	39
Presenting Your Essay	43
Publishing an Essay Anthology	44
Other Types of Essays	46
Writing a Collective Essay	47
Bibliography	48



Outlining *(cont.)*

My Outline

Topic: _____

Introduction:

Main Idea: _____

• Detail: _____

• Detail: _____

• Detail: _____

Main Idea: _____

• Detail: _____

• Detail: _____

• Detail: _____

Main Idea: _____

• Detail: _____

• Detail: _____

• Detail: _____

Conclusion:



Writing Your Rough Draft *(cont.)*

Rough Draft: Main Idea Paragraph #1

Answer the following questions:

- Do I have a clear topic sentence?
- Do all my ideas and details from my outline appear here?
- Is there a clear distinction between my details?
- Do I use transitions to link ideas?
- Do I have a clear concluding sentence?