

2010 English Standards of Learning Writing Skills Progression by Grade

Standard	Grade(s)												
	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Differentiate pictures from writing.													
Use available technology for reading and writing.													
Generate ideas.													
Focus on one topic.													
Revise writing.													
Use complete sentences in final copies.													
Begin each sentence with a capital letter and use ending punctuation in final copies.													
Use correct spelling for commonly used sight words and phonetically regular words in final copies.													
Organize writing to include a beginning, middle and end for narrative and expository writing.													
Expand writing to include descriptive detail.													
Identify intended audience.													
Use a variety of prewriting strategies.													
Write a clear topic sentence focusing on the main idea.													
Write a paragraph on the same topic.													
Use strategies for organization of information and elaboration according to the type of writing.													
Include details that elaborate the main idea.													
Recognize different modes of writing have different patterns of organization.													
Write two or more related paragraphs on the same topic.													
Use transition words for sentence variety.													
Utilize elements of style, including word choice and sentence variation.													
Write multiparagraph compositions.													
Compose a topic sentence or thesis statement if appropriate.													
Select vocabulary and information to enhance the central idea, tone, and voice.													
Expand and embed ideas by using modifiers, standard coordination, and subordination in complete sentences.													
Use clauses and phrases for sentence variety.													
Distinguish between a thesis statement and a topic sentence.													
Communicate clearly the purpose of the writing using a thesis statement where appropriate.													
Arrange paragraphs into a logical order.													

	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Use transitions between paragraphs and ideas.													
Synthesize information to support the thesis.													
Produce arguments in writing developing a thesis that demonstrates knowledgeable judgments, addresses counterclaims, and provides effective conclusions.													
Clarify and defined position with precise and relevant evidence elaborating ideas clearly and accurately.													
Write and revise correspondence to a standard acceptable both in the workplace and in postsecondary education.													
Use a variety of rhetorical strategies to accomplish a specific purpose.													
Create arguments free of errors in logic and externally supported.													

The skill is introduced and appears in the grade-level writing standards.	
The skill is not formally introduced in the grade level writing standard. Students should be knowledgeable about the skill from previous instruction. Teachers should review skills taught in previous grades.	