**Writing Rubric**

This checklist helps you make sure your writing is super strong. We'll look at four things: **Ideas**, **Organization**, **Words**, and **Spelling & Grammar**.

### **1. Ideas 💡**

This is all about what you're writing and how interesting it is!

* **Extending:** Your writing has an **amazing main idea** that's easy to understand. You have lots of cool details and reasons to back it up. It feels like you really know what you're talking about!
* **Proficient:** Your main idea is pretty clear, and you have some good details. It's solid writing, but you could add a few more fun facts or examples to make it even better.
* **Developing:** It's a bit hard to find your main idea. You have some details, but they might not all fit together. You could make your writing clearer.
* **Beginning:** Your writing doesn't have a clear main idea. It's hard to follow what you're trying to say, and you need to add more details.

### **2. Organization ✍️**

This is how you put your ideas in order so they make sense to the reader.

* **Extending:** Your writing has a fantastic beginning, middle, and end. Each paragraph has one main idea, and you use **transition words** (like "first," "next," "then") to connect them perfectly. It's easy to read!
* **Proficient:** Your writing is mostly in a good order. It has a beginning, middle, and end, but some parts might not flow as smoothly as they could.
* **Developing:** Your writing jumps around a bit, and it's hard to tell where one idea ends and the next begins. You need to work on putting your thoughts in a logical order.
* **Beginning:** Your writing is all over the place. There's no clear order, and it's hard to follow.

### **3. Word Choice & Voice 🗣️**

This is about the words you choose and how your writing sounds to the reader.

* **Extending:** You use **strong, interesting words** that make your writing pop! Your sentences are different lengths, which makes it fun to read. Your voice sounds just right for what you're writing.
* **Proficient:** You use good words, but some might be a bit plain. Your sentences are mostly the same length. Your voice is okay, but you could make it sound more like you!
* **Developing:** Your words are a bit simple and repeated a lot. Your sentences are short and choppy. Your writing doesn't have a clear voice.
* **Beginning:** Your word choice is confusing, and the writing is hard to understand. You need to use clearer words and more varied sentences.

### **4. Spelling & Grammar ✨**

This is about making sure your writing is clean and polished!

* **Extending:** Your writing is super clean! You have almost no mistakes with **spelling, capitalization, or punctuation**. It's easy to read and looks great.
* **Proficient:** You have a few tiny mistakes with spelling or punctuation, but they don't get in the way of reading. Good job!
* **Developing:** You have a lot of mistakes with spelling, capitalization, or punctuation. These mistakes sometimes make it hard to understand what you're trying to say.
* **Beginning:** Your writing has so many mistakes that it's very difficult to read and understand. You need to check your work very carefully!