



Getting Started

The writing process helps you understand how to create a piece of writing. The writing traits give you a common language for discussing and assessing what you create. The traits are

- Ideas
- Organization
- Voice
- Word Choice
- Sentence Fluency
- Conventions
- Presentation

In the weeks to come, you'll learn more about each trait and how to use it as you prewrite, draft, revise, edit, and publish your writing. What makes the traits so great? They help YOU become a great writer!

Steps in the Writing Process



The Writing Process

Prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and finishing and publishing are the steps of the writing process. As you work through these steps, you share your writing with others and strive to improve it. That's where the writing traits come in. The traits help you know what to do at each step of the writing process. As a result, your writing gets stronger and stronger.

The Writing Process

Prewriting

- Use prewriting strategies such as reading, making lists or drawing pictures to gather information.
- Think about the best way to organize your thoughts.
- Consider your audience and purpose for writing.

Drafting

- Use prewriting ideas to make drafting decisions.
- Let ideas flow, knowing you can revise later.
- Get thoughts down without worrying too much about conventions.
- Begin to structure the body.

Revising

- Use accurate and interesting details that reveal your unique perspective on the topic.
- Consider the tone and the voice that will connect with the reader.
- Start out strong and end just as strong.
- Refine words and sentences so they are precise and varied.

Editing

- Check spelling and look up words if needed.
- Punctuate sentences accurately and start paragraphs in the right places.
- Use capital letters correctly.
- Apply standard rules of English grammar.



The Writing Process

One Important Thing

One important thing I want to remember about ...



• **Ideas** is _____

• **Organization** is _____



• **Voice** is _____

• **Word Choice** is _____



• **Sentence Fluency** is _____

• **Conventions** is _____



• **Presentation** is _____
