

# Ideas and Content

## ⑤ Paper - Focused, Clear, and Specific

My writing is full of the kinds of details that keep the reader's attention and show what is really important about my topic.

- I know a lot about this topic, and when someone else reads it, they'll find out some new or little-known information.
- I made sure to show what was happening ("The wildly spiraling tornado aimed straight for our barn") rather than telling what happened ("It was scary").
- I filled my paper with interesting tidbits that make reading it fun and lively.
- I made sure my topic was small enough to handle. "All About Baseball" was too big - I changed it to "How to Steal a Base."
- I could easily answer the question, "What is the point of this paper/story?"



## ③ Paper - Some Really Good Parts, Some Not There Yet

The reader usually knows what I mean. Some parts will be better when I tell just a little more about what is important.

- Some of the things I said are new, but other things everyone knows already.
- Some details I have used are pretty general, like: "Her hat was nice," or "It was a sunny day."
- I think my topic might be too big and I got bogged down trying to tell a little about a lot instead of a lot about a little.
- Sometimes I was very clear about what I meant, but at other times, it was still fuzzy.

## ① Paper - Just Beginning to Figure Out What I Want to Say.

When someone else reads my paper, it will be hard for them to understand what I mean or what it is all about.

- I haven't shared much information. I guess I don't know enough yet about this topic to write about it.
- My details are so vague it is hard to picture anything.
- I'm still thinking aloud on paper. I'm looking for a good idea.
- Maybe I'll write about this, but then, maybe I'll write about that ...



# Organization

## ⑤ Paper - Clear and Compelling Direction

I've chosen an order that works well and makes the reader want to find out what's coming next.



- My beginning gets the reader's attention and gives clues about what is coming.
- Every detail adds a little more to the main idea or story.
- All my details are in the right place; everything fits like a puzzle.
- I ended at a good spot and didn't drag on too long. I left my reader with something to think about.

## ③ Paper - Some Really Smooth Parts, Others Need Work

The order of my story/paper makes sense most of the time.

- I have a beginning, but it really doesn't grab you or give clues about what is coming.
- Sometimes it is not clear how the details I have used connect to the main idea or story.
- Some of my details are in the right spot, but some should come earlier or later.
- I've lingered too long in some places, and sped through others.
- I have a conclusion, it just isn't the way I want it yet. I may have gone on too long or just tried to sum up in a ho hum way.

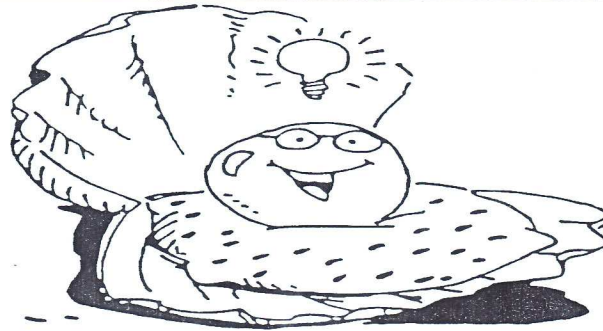
## ① Paper - Not Shaped Yet

The order in my paper is jumbled and confused. I'm feeling dizzy!

- There isn't really a beginning or ending to my paper. It just kinda "takes off .."
- I'm confused about how the details fit with the main idea or story.
- My ideas seem scrambled, jumbled and disconnected. It's confusing.
- Conclusion? Oops, I forgot.



# Sentence Fluency



## ⑤ Paper - Varied and Natural

The sentences in my paper are clear and delightful to read aloud.

- Some sentences are long and stretchy, while some are short and snappy.
- It's easy to read my paper aloud. I love the sound.
- Sentence beginnings vary; they show how ideas connect.
- You can tell that I have good "sentence sense" because my paper just flows.
- All excess baggage has been cut. I've economized with words.

## ③ Paper - Routine and Functional

Some sentences are choppy or awkward, but most are clear.

- Some of my sentences are smooth and natural, but others are halting.
- Sentence beginnings are more alike than different.
- I need to add linking words (Therefore ... Later ... For this reason ... When this happened ...) to show how sentences connect.
- Some sentences should merge; others need to be cut in two.
- I have used more words than necessary--I still need to trim some deadwood.

## ① Paper - Needs Work

Because there isn't enough "sentence sense" yet, this paper is difficult to read aloud, even with practice.

- As I read my paper, I have to go back, stop, and read over, just to figure out the sentences.
- I'm having a hard time telling where one sentence stops and another begins.
- The sentence patterns in my paper are so repetitive they might put my reader to sleep!
- I have to do quite a bit of oral editing (leaving some words out, putting some others in) just to help the listener get the meaning.

