

Teacher-Friendly Scoring Guide for the Voice Trait

The voice trait reflects the tone of the piece—the personal stamp of the writer, which is achieved through a strong understanding of purpose and audience.



3 ESTABLISHED

The writing has energy and is engaging.

- The pictures and/or words show original, interesting thinking.
- The pictures and/or words connect with the reader.
- The pictures and/or words have a distinctive tone.

2 EXPANDING

The writing attempts to communicate something personal or of interest but doesn't offer a fresh perspective.

- There is a moment in pictures and/or words and sentences when the writing is more than expected.
- The pictures and/or words and sentences make a predictable connection with the reader.
- The tone of the pictures and/or words and sentences is pleasant but expected.

1 EMERGENT

The writing is impersonal and feels flat.

- There are no writing risks in pictures or words that work.
- The reader is not engaged with the pictures or writing.
- The writing does not have a discernible tone because it is not developed, or there are not enough pictures or writing on the paper.