

# Reteaching Writing Traits

Good writing is clear, engaging, and easy to understand. Help students make their writing as good as it can be. They can use a rubric to check their writing to make sure it has the characteristics, or traits, of good writing.

## Development of Ideas

**1 Teach** Explain: *If you develop your ideas well, your readers will stay interested. Papers with well-developed ideas feel complete, or finished. They contain enough details and examples to help your reader understand your ideas.*

**2 Model** Display a professional model or selection that exemplifies good development of ideas. Point out details and examples in the composition that make the ideas clear. Direct students' attention to the pages in the Handbook for your grade that explain development of ideas. Model using the Rubric to assign an appropriate score to the composition, using a 4-point scale.

**3 Practice/Apply** Display or read aloud the prompt:

Write about an activity you enjoy and why you enjoy it.

Have students write about why they enjoy a specific activity. Say: *Think of details and examples you can include to help explain your ideas.* Adjust the prompt to include students at all proficiency levels.

<p><b>B</b> Have each student complete these frames:</p> <p><i>I like to ____.</i></p> <p><i>I like to ____ because ____.</i></p>	<p><b>A</b> Have each student write a paragraph about an activity he or she enjoys. Students should include several sentences that tell details and examples to support the initial statement.</p>
<p><b>I</b> Have each student write one sentence that names the activity and other sentences to give details and examples.</p>	<p><b>AH</b> Have each student write several paragraphs about an activity that he or she enjoys. Each student should write a paragraph about each detail or example to support the initial statement.</p>

Display the appropriate Writing Traits Rubric found in the Handbook for your grade. Have students use the Rubric to check their writing. Remind students to edit their work for development of ideas. Say: *How can you make your ideas easier to understand? What details and examples can you add to help your reader understand your ideas?*