Rubric writing skills. Name:
To be used for self assessment and strategies for improvement.

*Writing, to me, is simply thinking through my fingers.*  
ISAAC ASIMOV

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>WOW</th>
<th>I'm good</th>
<th>I try</th>
<th>I need work</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vocabulary</strong></td>
<td>I have a wide range of vocabulary and know how to use formal and advanced words and expressions.</td>
<td>I use many formal words and I know how to use synonyms to upgrade my vocabulary.</td>
<td>I mostly use words I already know but I occasionally try to use synonyms.</td>
<td>I find it hard to know how to use more formal vocabulary and how to find them.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Structure</strong></td>
<td>I am completely familiar with the structure of a 5-paragraph essay and of a written report with topic sentences and linking words.</td>
<td>I use the 5 paragraph essay form and try to use linking words.</td>
<td>I am not sure about how to structure a text but noone has complained so far. I use paragraphs and try to have a good structure.</td>
<td>I just write, it’s up to the reader to get what I’m trying to say! I’m not sure how to use paragraphs.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar</strong></td>
<td>I know that my language is correct and I am fully aware of how to use the subject-verb agreement and the do-construction among other grammar issues.</td>
<td>I write mostly correct but I know I sometimes make mistakes with subject-verb agreement and other minor issues.</td>
<td>I just write and don’t pay attention to how I work with verbs or other grammatical issues such as the do-construction or adverbs.</td>
<td>I know what sounds good and sometimes it comes out correct and sometimes not.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spelling</strong></td>
<td>Perfect</td>
<td>I don’t think I have a general problem with spelling but occasionally make mistakes.</td>
<td>I know I have some issues with spelling but don’t really know how to improve it.</td>
<td>I know my spelling is bad and I want to improve it. I know my spelling is bad but there’s no point in working</td>
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Notes on how to improve:

| Improving your range of active and formal vocabulary: | 1. Go through your text, pinpoint words you know that you use often. Look up synonyms and replace them.  
2. Go through the linking words on page 191 in Blueprint. Try to insert them into your text.  
3. Go through the list of informal words and how to make them formal on page 190 in Blueprint. Compare with your own text and see if you can replace any informal words.  
4. Have a friend read you text and suggest alternative ways of expressing yourself.  
5. Look up core vocabulary on the internet and check your knowledge.  
6. Practise the advanced vocabulary work sheet.  
7. Your own suggestions: |
|---|---|
| Structure: | 1. Read your text one paragraph at a time and summarize each paragraph. Were there any inconsistencies? Were you able to summarize clearly or do you need to rework your paragraphs?  
2. Get a friend to read your text and comment on how easy it is to follow your train of thought.  
3. Read page in Blueprint on topic sentences. Have you used them? If not, add them to your text.  
4. Make sure you know what the 5 paragraph essay form is and compare your own text with that structure.  
5. Your own suggestions: |
| Grammar | 1. Use peer response regularly and correct a friend’s text.  
2. Go through all your verbs and rethink how they are used.  
3. Learn how to do auto revision (p 197)  
4. Choose a few sentences and change something about them. Ask a friend to pinpoint the error(s). Take turns correcting changed sentences and check with the original text.  
5. Prepare to teach the class about a grammatical issue.  
6. Work through work sheets to practise grammar.  
7. Make sure you know all the points in "Write correctly".  
7. Your own suggestions: |
| Spelling | 1. Practise making dictation exercises with a friend.  
2. Read a text out loud, paying attention to spelling.  
3. Make a note of words you seem to often misspell and make up mnemonic tricks to remember the spelling.  
4. Work with “tricky little fellows” in Write correctly and |
learn them by heart.
5. Your own suggestions: