

Quick Scale: Grade 1 Writing From Experience

The Quick Scale is a summary of the Rating Scale that follows. Both describe student achievement in March–April of the school year.

Aspect	Not Yet Within Expectations	Meets Expectations (Minimal Level)	Fully Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations
SNAPSHOT	<i>The writing may consist of a string of letters or be dictated for someone else to write down. The student needs a great deal of help.</i>	<i>The writing is recognizable as conventional writing and conveys some ideas or information. The student often needs some help.</i>	<i>The writing is readable and makes sense. The student is able to write independently with occasional help.</i>	<i>The writing communicates ideas or information with some description and detail. The student is able to write independently.</i>
MEANING • ideas and information • details	• may be able to “read” own writing, but meaning often changes each time	• sentences or ideas may not be related • little development, few details	• sentences or ideas are related • some detail	• some individuality • develops a topic with supporting details
STYLE • clarity and variety of language • description	• simple words • when “reading” or dictating, may be one long sentence or a series of short, stilted sentences	• conversational • repeats simple patterns, favourite words	• conversational, some simple description • repeats simple patterns	• some descriptive language • takes risks to use new words or patterns
FORM • follows models or examples • sequence	• usually a drawing with a string of letters or one or two dictated sentences	• may be very brief • drawing may provide much of the information	• follows form modelled by teacher • writing can stand alone	• logically connected and sequenced • writing can stand alone
CONVENTIONS • capitals and small letters • spelling • use of phonics • punctuation • spacing • legibility	• strings of capital letters • may show correct initial consonant • not yet able to use phonics • no punctuation • may be copied or dictated to another person	• mostly capital letters • some words spelled conventionally • many words spelled phonetically • may experiment with punctuation • parts are legible	• both capitals and small letters • many familiar words spelled conventionally • new or unfamiliar words spelled phonetically • some punctuation • legible	• both capitals and small letters • most familiar words spelled conventionally • phonics and word patterns used to solve spelling problems • generally written in sentences; uses punctuation • legible