

CALIFORNIA CONTENT STANDARDS - Writing Strategies

1.0 Students write clear and coherent sentences and paragraphs that develop a central idea. Their writing shows they consider the audience and purpose. Students progress through the stages of the writing process (e.g., prewriting, drafting, revising and editing successive versions).

KINDERGARTEN	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4
<p>Organization and Focus 1.1 Use letters and phonetically spelled words to write about experiences, stories, people, objects, or events. 1.2 Write consonant-vowel-consonant words (i.e., demonstrate the alphabetic principle). 1.3 Write by moving from left to right and from top to bottom.</p> <p>Penmanship 1.4 Write uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet independently, attending to the form and proper spacing of the letters.</p>	<p>Organization and Focus 1.1 Group related ideas and maintain a consistent focus.</p> <p>Penmanship 1.2 Create readable documents with legible handwriting.</p> <p>Research 1.3 Understand the purposes of various reference materials (e.g., dictionary, thesaurus, atlas).</p> <p>Evaluation and Revision 1.4 Revise original drafts to improve sequence and provide more descriptive detail.</p>	<p>Organization and Focus 1.1 Create a single paragraph: a. Develop a topic sentence. b. Include simple supporting facts and details.</p> <p>Penmanship 1.2 Write legibly in cursive or joined italic, allowing margins and correct spacing between letters in a word and words in a sentence.</p> <p>Research and Technology 1.3 Understand the structure and organization of various reference materials (e.g., dictionary, thesaurus, atlas, encyclopedia).</p> <p>Evaluation and Revision 1.4 Revise drafts to improve the coherence and logical progression of ideas by using an established rubric.</p>	<p>Organization and Focus 1.1 Select a focus, an organizational structure, and a point of view based upon purpose, audience, length, and format requirements. 1.2 Create multiple-paragraph compositions: a. Provide an introductory paragraph. b. Establish and support a central idea with a topic sentence at or near the beginning of the first paragraph. c. Include supporting paragraphs with simple facts, details, and explanations. d. Conclude with a paragraph that summarizes the points. e. Use correct indentation.</p> <p>1.3 Use traditional structures for conveying information (e.g., chronological order, cause and effect, similarity and difference, and posing and answering a question).</p> <p>Penmanship 1.4 Write fluidly and legibly in cursive or joined italic.</p> <p>Research and Technology 1.5 Quote or paraphrase information sources, citing them appropriately. 1.6 Locate information in reference texts by using organizational features (e.g., prefaces, appendixes). 1.7 Use various reference materials (e.g., dictionary, thesaurus, card catalog, encyclopedia, online information) as an aid to writing. 1.8 Understand the organization of almanacs, newspapers, and periodicals and how to use those print materials. 1.9 Demonstrate basic keyboarding skills and familiarity with computer terminology (e.g., cursor, software, memory, disk drive, hard drive).</p> <p>Evaluation and Revision 1.10 Edit and revise selected drafts to improve coherence and progression by adding, deleting, consolidating, and rearranging text.</p>
<p>GRADE 1</p>			
<p>Organization and Focus 1.1 Select a focus when writing. 1.2 Use descriptive words when writing.</p> <p>Penmanship 1.3 Print legibly and space letters, words, and sentences appropriately.</p>			

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GRADE 5	GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
<p>Organization and Focus</p> <p>1.1 Create multiple-paragraph narrative compositions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Establish and develop a situation or plot.Describe the setting.Present an ending. <p>1.2 Create multiple-paragraph expository compositions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Establish a topic, important ideas, or events in sequence or chronological order.Provide details and transitional expressions that link one paragraph to another in a clear line of thought.Offer a concluding paragraph that summarizes important ideas and details. <p>Research and Technology</p> <p>1.3 Use organizational features of printed text (e.g., citations, end notes, bibliographic references) to locate relevant information.</p> <p>1.4 Create simple documents by using electronic media and employing organizational features (e.g., passwords, entry and pull-down menus, word searches, the thesaurus, spell checks).</p> <p>1.5 Use a thesaurus to identify alternative word choices and meanings.</p> <p>Evaluation and Revision</p> <p>1.6 Edit and revise manuscripts to improve the meaning and focus of writing by adding, deleting, consolidating, clarifying, and rearranging words and sentences.</p>	<p>Organization and Focus</p> <p>1.1 Choose the form of writing (e.g., personal letter, letter to the editor, review, poem, report, narrative) that best suits the intended purpose.</p> <p>1.2 Create multiple-paragraph expository compositions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">Engage the interest of the reader and state a clear purpose.Develop the topic with supporting details and precise verbs, nouns, and adjectives to paint a visual image in the mind of the reader.Conclude with a detailed summary linked to the purpose of the composition. <p>1.3 Use a variety of effective and coherent organizational patterns, including comparison and contrast; organization by categories; and arrangement by spatial order, order of importance, or climactic order.</p> <p>Research and Technology</p> <p>1.4 Use organizational features of electronic text (e.g., bulletin boards, databases, keyword searches, e-mail addresses) to locate information.</p> <p>1.5 Compose documents with appropriate formatting by using word-processing skills and principles of design (e.g., margins, tabs, spacing, columns, page orientation).</p> <p>Evaluation and Revision</p> <p>1.6 Revise writing to improve the organization and consistency of ideas within and between paragraphs.</p>	<p>Organization and Focus</p> <p>1.1 Create an organizational structure that balances all aspects of the composition and uses effective transitions between sentences to unify important ideas.</p> <p>1.2 Support all statements and claims with anecdotes, descriptions, facts and statistics, and specific examples.</p> <p>1.3 Use strategies to notetaking, outlining, and summarizing to impose structure on composition drafts.</p> <p>Research and Technology</p> <p>1.4 Identify topics; ask and evaluate questions; and develop ideas leading to inquiry, investigation, and research.</p> <p>1.5 Give credit for both quoted and paraphrased information in a bibliography by using a consistent and sanctioned format and methodology for citations.</p> <p>1.6 Create documents by using word-processing skills and publishing programs; develop simple databases and spreadsheets to manage information and prepare reports.</p> <p>Evaluation and Revision</p> <p>1.7 Revise writing to improve organization and word choice after checking the logic of the ideas and the precision of the vocabulary.</p>	<p>Organization and Focus</p> <p>1.1 Create compositions that establish a controlling impression, have a coherent thesis, and end with a clear and well-supported conclusion.</p> <p>1.2 Establish coherence within and among paragraphs through effective transitions, parallel structures, and similar writing techniques.</p> <p>1.3 Support theses or conclusions with analogies, paraphrases, quotations, opinions from authorities, comparisons, and similar devices.</p> <p>Research and Technology</p> <p>1.4 Plan and conduct multiple-step information searches by using computer networks and modems.</p> <p>1.5 Achieve an effective balance between researched information and original ideas.</p> <p>Evaluation and Revision</p> <p>1.6 Revise writing for word choice; appropriate organization; consistent point of view; and transitions between paragraphs, passages, and ideas.</p>

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GRADE 9/10

Organization and Focus

1.1 Establish a controlling impression or coherent thesis that conveys a clear and distinctive perspective on the subject and maintain a consistent tone and focus throughout the piece of writing.

1.2 Use precise language, action verbs, sensory details, appropriate modifiers, and the active rather than the passive voice.

Research and Technology

1.3 Use clear research questions and suitable research methods (e.g., library, electronic media, personal interview) to elicit and present evidence from primary and secondary sources.

1.4 Develop the main ideas within the body of the composition through supporting evidence (e.g., scenarios, commonly held beliefs, hypotheses, definitions).

1.5 Synthesize information from multiple sources and identify complexities and discrepancies in the information and the different perspectives found in each medium (e.g., almanacs, microfiche, news sources, in-depth field studies, speeches, journals, technical documents).

1.6 Integrate quotations and citations into a written text while maintaining the flow of ideas.

1.7 Use appropriate conventions for documentation in the text, notes, and bibliographies by adhering to those in style manuals (e.g., *Modern Language Association Handbook*, *The Chicago Manual of Style*).

1.8 Design and publish documents by using advanced publishing software and graphic programs.

Evaluation and Revision

1.9 Revise writing to improve the logic and coherence of the organization and controlling perspective, the precision of word choice, and the tone by taking into consideration the audience, purpose, and formality of the context.

GRADE 11/12

Organization and Focus

1.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the elements of discourse (e.g., purpose, speaker, audience, form) when completing narrative, expository, persuasive, or descriptive writing assignments.

1.2 Use point of view, characterization, style (e.g., use of irony), and related elements for specific rhetorical and aesthetic purposes.

1.3 Structure ideas and arguments in a sustained, persuasive, and sophisticated way and support them with precise and relevant examples.

1.4 Enhance meaning by employing rhetorical devices, including the extended use of parallelism, repetition, and analogy; the incorporation of visual aids (e.g., graphs, tables, pictures); and the issuance of a call for action.

1.5 Use language in natural, fresh, and vivid ways to establish a specific tone.

Research and Technology

1.6 Develop presentations by using clear research questions and creative and critical research strategies (e.g., field studies, oral histories, interviews, experiments, electronic sources).

1.7 Use systematic strategies to organize and record information (e.g., anecdotal scripting, annotated bibliographies).

1.8 Integrate databases, graphics, and spreadsheets into word-processed documents.

Evaluation and Revision

1.9 Revise text to highlight the individual voice, improve sentence variety and style, and enhance subtlety of meaning and tone in ways that are consistent with the purpose, audience, and genre.