

## Appendix A

### First-Grade Writing Proficiency Benchmark/Narrative Writing

**Standard I—Process and Habits**

**38 points**

**First Draft**

- ✓ Records ideas with fluency (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Rereads what has been written (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_

**Revising**

- ✓ Adds/deletes words (4 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Rearranges words, sentences, or phrases (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Substitutes richer vocabulary choices (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Uses writing checklist (4 points) \_\_\_\_\_

**Editing**

- ✓ Notices some errors in spelling by circling words (4 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Corrects many misspelled words (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Corrects some punctuation and capitalization (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Uses resources to check (e.g., dictionary, checklists) (4 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Uses a thesaurus (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_

**Final Draft**

- ✓ Incorporates revisions into final copy (4 points) \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Increases accuracy of the final draft (spelling, punctuation) (4 points) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

Standard I	
_____	Below the Standard (19 or less)
_____	Approaching the Standard (20–27)
_____	Meeting the Standard (28)
_____	Exceeding the Standard (above 28)

**Standard II—Audience and Purposes/Author’s Craft**

**59 points**

**Introduces the Topic**

- ✓ Opening sentence states focus of writing (10 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Grabs the attention of the reader (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_

**Develops the Topic**

- ✓ Uses logical order (beginning, middle, end) (6 points) \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Sustains the idea throughout the piece (6 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Uses dialogue (3 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Uses individual voice (3 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Uses reaction phrases (3 points) \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Uses transitional and time cue words to support flow (5 points) \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ Uses some strong vocabulary and word choice [more than 1 word] (e.g., *shouted for said, huge for big*) (5 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Uses several interesting words to express ideas (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Begins to use descriptive and figurative language (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_

**Concludes the Topic**

- ✓ Provides sense of closure (e.g., “It was fun.” “This ends my story.” “The end.”) (10 points) \_\_\_\_\_
  - Ties story together with creative or imaginative ending (2 points) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

Standard II	
_____	Below the Standard (35 or less)
_____	Approaching the Standard (36–41)
_____	Meeting the Standard (42)
_____	Exceeding the Standard (above 42)

## Appendix A

<b>Standard III—Language Use and Conventions</b>	<b>37 points</b>	<b>Standard III</b>
<b>Style and Syntax</b>		_____ Below the Standard (16 or less) _____ Approaching the Standard (17–22) _____ Meeting the Standard (22) _____ Exceeding the Standard (above 22)
✓ Uses a variety of sentence structures and lengths (3 points)	_____	
• Shows evidence of book language or structures from other texts (2 points)	_____	
<b>Spelling</b>		
✓ Writes most high-frequency words correctly (5 points)	_____	
• Writes all high-frequency words correctly (2 points)	_____	
✓ Uses phonetic spelling (5 points)	_____	
• Uses transitional and/or conventional spelling (2 points)	_____	
<b>Punctuation and Conventions</b>		
✓ Writes complete sentences majority of the time (3 points)	_____	
• Writes complete sentences all of the time (3 points)	_____	
• Uses subject/verb agreement most of the time (2 points)	_____	
✓ Demonstrates some accurate use of beginning capitalization (4 points)	_____	
• Demonstrates mostly accurate use of beginning capitalization (2 points)	_____	
✓ Demonstrates some accurate use of closing punctuation (periods and question marks) (2 points)	_____	
• Demonstrates mostly accurate use of closing punctuation (periods and question marks) (2 points)	_____	
<b>Total</b>	_____	