

Writing Mode-Specific Skills: Grades 6-8		
Argument	Informative/Explanatory	Narrative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> introduce claims acknowledge alternate or opposing claims* organize reasons and evidence support claims with evidence use words/phrases/clauses to clarify relationships among claims and reasons maintain formal style concluding statement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> introduce topic organize ideas/concepts/ information using structures (descriptive, classification, comparison, cause/effect) format headings/graphics/multimedia relevance (facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, examples) appropriate transitions for relationships among ideas precise language (domain-specific vocabulary) maintain formal style concluding statement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establish context (introduce narrator/characters) sequence events to unfold naturally and logically narrative techniques (dialogue, pacing, description) narrative technique: reflection** develop experiences/events/ characters sequence specific transition words to signal shifts in time precise words (descriptive details, sensory language) conclusion

*Standard begins in Grade 7

**Standard begins in Grade 8

Mentor Sentence Skills			
Grade	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> adjectives and adverbs function of phrases (appositives/prepositional) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sentence structure: complex, compound, compound-complex conjunctions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> function of phrases (appositives/prepositional) and clauses pronouns (using proper case, intensive pronouns, correct number and person, and clear antecedent)
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> adjectives/adverbs function of phrases (appositives/prepositional) coordinate adjectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sentence structure: complex, compound, compound-complex conjunctions sentence structure: signal differing relationships among ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> function of phrases (appositives/prepositional) and clauses pronouns (using proper case, intensive pronouns, correct number and person, and clear antecedent) dangling and misplaced modifiers
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> coordinate adjectives function of phrases (prepositional/gerunds/infinitives) and clauses dangling and misplaced modifiers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> sentence structure: signal differing relationships among ideas function of phrases (prepositional/gerunds/infinitives) and clauses dashes/ellipses (pause, break, omission) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use verbs in the active/passive voice use verbs in the indicative, imperative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, subjunctive mood

Paragraph and Revision Skills				
Grade	Level 1		Level 2	Level 3
	Narrative or Informative/Explanatory		Informative/Explanatory	Argumentative
6	Narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● outlining/story elements ● three paragraphs (beginning, middle, end) ● expanding paragraphs (descriptive details) ● linking and transitional words (sequence and passage of time) ● combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs ● appropriate purpose and audience ● maintain style and tone ● publication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● thesis statement (two topics) ● outlining/parts of a paragraph (four paragraphs) ● expanding paragraphs/linking and transitional words/concrete details/relevant evidence ● combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs ● appropriate purpose and audience ● maintain style and tone ● publication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● argumentative statement (three claims) ● outlining/parts of a paragraph (five paragraphs) ● expanding paragraphs/linking and transitional words/concrete details/relevant evidence ● combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs ● appropriate purpose and audience ● maintain style and tone ● publication
	Informative/Explanatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● thesis statement (single topic) ● outlining/parts of a paragraph (three paragraphs) ● expanding paragraphs/linking and transitional words/concrete details/relevant evidence ● combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs ● appropriate purpose and audience ● maintain style and tone ● publication 		
Revision Skills: combining sentences; expanding sentences; reducing sentences to eliminate wordiness and redundancy; word choice; punctuation; spelling; varying sentence structures				

Paragraph and Revision Skills			
Grade	Level 1		Level 2
	Narrative or Informative/Explanatory		Informative/Explanatory
	Narrative	Informative/Explanatory	Argumentative
7	Narrative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> outlining/story elements four paragraphs (beginning, middle, end) expanding paragraphs (descriptive details) linking and transitional words (sequence and passage of time) combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs appropriate purpose and audience maintain style and tone publication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thesis statement (two topics) outlining/parts of a paragraph (four paragraphs) expanding paragraphs/linking and transitional words/concrete details/relevant evidence combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs appropriate purpose and audience maintain style and tone publication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thesis statement (three topics) outlining/parts of a paragraph (five paragraphs) expanding paragraphs/linking and transitional words/concrete details/relevant evidence combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs appropriate purpose and audience maintain style and tone publication
	Revision Skills: combining sentences; expanding sentences; reducing sentences to eliminate wordiness and redundancy; word choice; punctuation; spelling; varying sentence structures		

Paragraph and Revision Skills				
Grade	Level 1 Informative/Explanatory	Level 2 Narrative or Informative/Explanatory		Level 3 Argumentative
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thesis statement (three topics) outlining/parts of a paragraph (five paragraphs) expanding paragraphs/linking and transitional words/concrete details/relevant evidence combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs appropriate purpose and audience maintain style and tone publication 	Narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> outlining/story elements five paragraphs - beginning, middle, end expanding paragraphs (descriptive details) linking and transitional words (sequence and passage of time) combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs appropriate purpose and audience maintain style and tone publication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> argumentative statement (three claims) outlining/parts of a paragraph (five paragraphs) expanding paragraphs/linking and transitional words/concrete details/relevant evidence combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs appropriate purpose and audience maintain style and tone publication
		Informative/Explanatory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> thesis statement (three topics) outlining/parts of a paragraph (five paragraphs) expanding paragraphs/linking and transitional words/concrete details/relevant evidence combining sentences into paragraphs/building paragraphs appropriate purpose and audience maintain style and tone publication 	
Revision Skills: combining sentences; expanding sentences; reducing sentences to eliminate wordiness and redundancy; word choice; punctuation; spelling; varying sentence structures				