

3RD GRADE WRITING CHECKLIST

Goal 3

Illinois Learning Standard A

ISAT test questions are derived from this checklist. Use as a curriculum guide.

GRAMMAR AND SENTENCE STRUCTURE

- _____ Write complete sentences (e.g. avoid fragments and run-on sentences).
- _____ Use the correct form of regular verbs.
- _____ Write a variety of sentences (e.g., simple and compound).
- _____ Use correct subject-verb agreement.
- _____ Use pronouns correctly.
- _____ Demonstrate grade-appropriate use of the various parts of speech.
- _____ Use consistent verb tense in sentences (e.g., avoid “I took a bath and then I brush my teeth.”).

SPELLING

- _____ Spell grade-appropriate words correctly.

PUNCTUATION AND CAPITALIZATION

- _____ Capitalize words correctly (based on grade-appropriate rules.)
- _____ Use correct end punctuation.
- _____ Use grade-appropriate commas correctly.
- _____ Use grade-appropriate apostrophes correctly.
- _____ Use quotation marks in direct quotations.

EXPOSITORY COMPOSITION

Write an expository composition explaining or interpreting a specific topic based upon background experiences or information provided in the prompt.

Expository (Focus)

The clarity with which a composition presents and maintains a clear main idea or point of view.

_____ Set the purpose of the composition through a thematic introduction or specific preview.
(If previewed, address each point.)

_____ Maintain logic throughout.

_____ Write a closing that relates to the topic. (May be a restatement of points in the introduction.)

Expository (Support)

The degree to which the main point or position is supported and explained by specific details and reasons.

_____ Use well chosen words that suit the message and occasion.

_____ Include specific details to support major points.

_____ Build and connect ideas to create depth.

_____ Maintain consistent voice throughout.

Expository (Organization)

The clarity of the logical flow of ideas and the explicitness of the text structure or plan (coherence and cohesion)

_____ Include evident structure (beginning, middle and end).

_____ Use appropriate paragraphing for major points.

_____ Use basic transitions to connect sentences and paragraphs.

_____ Vary sentence structure.

Expository (Integration)

Evaluation of the composition based on a focused, global judgment of how effectively the composition as a whole fulfills the assignment.

_____ Fully develop the composition for grade level.

_____ Include a clear, purposeful focus and voice.

_____ Write in-depth support.

_____ Achieve coherence and cohesion.