

Grade 4-8 Writing Blueprint

Distribution of Writing Content

Reporting Category	Standards Included	Number of Items
Writing	II-B	9
Writing	II-C	1
Field Test Item Content is II-B		4

Total 14

Distribution of Item Types

Item Type	Multiple Choice	Editing Task	Writing Prompt
Number of Operational Items	8	1	1
Number of Field Test Items	2	2	0

Writing Genres

(Writing Committee Recommendations)

Grade 4	Descriptive Narrative
Grade 5	Expository: Cause and Effect
Grade 6	Expository: Problem/Solution
Grade 7	Expository: Opinion Response to Personal/Social Issues
Grade 8	Persuasive

For examples of the New Mexico Assessment items, see the New Mexico SBA released items.

http://www.ped.state.nm.us/AssessmentAccountability/AssessmentEvaluation/released_items_2010/index.html

<http://www.ped.state.nm.us/AssessmentAccountability/AssessmentEvaluation/SBA/index.html>

Grade 4

Sentence Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write simple and compound sentences.• Combine short, related sentences with appositives, participial phrases, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositional phrases.
Grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use correct :<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ regular and irregular plurals○ subject/verb agreement, pronoun referents, and parts of speech○ adjectives (comparative and superlative forms) and adverbs appropriately to make writing vivid or precise○ prepositional phrases to elaborate written ideas• Write with increasing accuracy when using:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ apostrophes in contractions such as <i>it's</i> and possessives such as <i>Jan's</i>○ objective case pronouns, such as "Jerry cooked for you and me."
Punctuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use parentheses, commas in direct quotations, apostrophes in the possessive case of nouns, apostrophes in contractions.• Use underlining, quotation marks, or italics to identify titles of documents.• Punctuate correctly to clarify and enhance meaning such as capitalizing titles, using possessives, commas in a series, commas in direct address, and sentence punctuation
Capitalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use correct capitalization for:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ names of magazines○ newspapers○ works of art○ musical compositions○ organizations○ proper nouns○ the first word in quotation marks when appropriate○ proper nouns (i.e., names, days, months)○ names of places○ abbreviations○ literary titles (i.e., book, story, poem)

Grade 5

Sentence Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Write sentences that use:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ independent and dependent clauses○ transitions○ conjunctions to connect ideas
Grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and use:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ regular and irregular plurals correctly○ adjectives (comparative and superlative forms) and adverbs appropriately to make writing vivid or precise○ prepositional phrases to elaborate written ideas○ verb tenses appropriately and consistently such as present, past, future, perfect, and progressive• Employ standard English usage in writing for audiences, including subject/verb agreement, pronoun referents, and parts of speech.• Write with increasing accuracy when using pronoun case, such as "He and they joined him."
Punctuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Punctuate endings of sentences using:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ periods○ question marks○ exclamation points• Use commas to punctuate:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ items in a series○ greetings and closings of letters○ dates○ introductory words○ dialogue○ direct address• Use quotation marks to punctuate:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ simple dialogue○ titles• Use colons to punctuate:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ time○ business letter salutations• Use apostrophes to punctuate:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ contractions○ singular possessive

Grade 5

Capitalization

- Use capital letters correctly for:
 - proper nouns
 - place names
 - holidays
 - languages
 - historical events
 - organizations
 - literary titles (i.e., book, story, poem, play, song)
 - titles
 - abbreviations
 - words used as names (e.g., Mother, Uncle Bob)

Grade 6	
Sentence Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write in complete sentences. • Use a variety of sentence structures.
Grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ verbs that agree with compound subjects. ○ adjectives (comparative and superlative forms) and adverbs appropriately to make writing vivid or precise ○ prepositional phrases to elaborate written ideas ○ verb tenses appropriately and consistently such as present, past, future, perfect, and progressive • Identify and properly use indefinite pronouns and present perfect, past perfect, and future perfect verb tenses to convey appropriate meaning • Write with increasing accuracy when using pronoun case, such as "She had the party." • Employ standard English usage in writing for audiences, including subject/verb agreement, pronoun referents, and parts of speech
Punctuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Punctuate using commas that link two clauses with a conjunction in compound sentences. • Use commas to punctuate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ items in a series ○ greetings and closings of letters ○ introductory words ○ direct address ○ interrupters ○ compound sentences ○ dates ○ dialogue • Use quotation marks to punctuate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ dialogue ○ titles of short works (e.g., chapter, story, article, song, poem) ○ exact words from sources • Use italics (in typed copy) and underlining (in handwriting) to indicate titles of longer works (e.g., books, plays, magazines, movies, TV series). • Use colons to punctuate business letter salutations. • Use apostrophes to punctuate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ contractions ○ singular possessives

Grade 6

Capitalization

- Use capital letters correctly for:
 - proper nouns
 - place names
 - holidays
 - languages
 - historical events
 - organizations
 - academic courses (e.g., algebra/Algebra I)
 - regional names (e.g., West Coast)
 - words used as names (e.g., Grandpa, Aunt Lucy)
 - literary titles (i.e., book, story, poem, play, song)
 - titles
 - abbreviations
 - proper adjectives
 - product names

Grade 7	
Sentence Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and use simple, compound, and complex sentences. • Identify and use words or phrases in a series.
Grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use correct pronoun case and antecedents, comparative and superlative forms of modifiers. • Identify all parts of speech. • Use correct subject/verb agreement and use antecedents for pronouns. • Conjugates grade level verbs correctly in writing, including irregular verbs. • Use adjectives and adverbs to add detail to written work. • Place modifiers properly.
Punctuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Punctuate sentences correctly to avoid fragments and run-on's. • Use commas to correctly punctuate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ items in a series ○ greetings and closings of letters ○ introductory words and clauses ○ direct address ○ interrupters ○ compound sentences ○ appositives ○ dates ○ dialogue • Use quotation marks to punctuate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ dialogue ○ titles of short works (e.g., chapter, story, article, song, poem) ○ exact words from sources • Use italics (in typed copy) and underlining (in handwriting) to indicate titles of longer works (e.g., books, plays, magazines, movies, TV series). • Use colons to punctuate business letter salutations. • Use apostrophes to punctuate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ contractions ○ singular possessives ○ plural possessives • Use semicolons to punctuate compound sentences.

Grade 7

Capitalization

- Use capital letters correctly for:
 - proper nouns
 - holidays
 - product names
 - languages
 - historical events
 - organizations
 - academic courses (e.g., algebra/Algebra I)
 - place regional names
 - words used as names
 - literary titles
 - titles
 - abbreviations
 - proper adjectives

Grade 8

Sentence Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify and use simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences.• Identify and use appositives and prepositional phrases.• Use parallelism, subordination, and coordination to indicate relationships between or among ideas.
Grammar	<p>In addition to seventh grade grammar frameworks,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use correct pronoun case and antecedents, comparative and superlative forms of modifiers, and verb tense.• Use prepositional phrases, appositives, and subordinate clauses to add detail and elaborate written work.• Use correct active and passive voice.
Punctuation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use commas to correctly punctuate:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ items in a series○ greetings and closings of letters○ introductory words and clauses○ direct address○ interrupters○ compound sentences○ appositives○ dialogue○ dates○ dialogue• Use quotation marks to punctuate:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ dialogue○ titles of short works (e.g., chapter, story, article, song, poem)○ exact words from sources• Use italics (in typed copy) and underlining (in handwriting) to indicate titles of longer works (e.g., books, plays, magazines, movies, TV series).• Use colons to punctuate business letter salutations and to begin a list.• Use apostrophes to punctuate:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ contractions○ singular possessives○ plural possessives• Use semicolons to punctuate compound sentences.

Capitalization

• Use capital letters correctly for:

- proper nouns
- holidays
- product names
- languages
- historical events
- organizations
- academic courses (e.g., algebra/Algebra I)
- place regional names
- words used as names
- literary titles
- titles
- abbreviations
- proper adjectives