

Writer's Reference Sheet

Grades 5 and 6

Focusing

- Read the prompt and, if provided, the passage(s).
- Think about what the prompt is asking you to do.
- Think about key issues in the passage, if provided, that will help you fulfill the purpose of writing your response.

Pre-writing

- Think about your audience and purpose for writing.
- Use a pre-writing technique (e.g., brainstorming, webbing, drawing, outlining) to plan your response.
- Think of your thesis statement and supporting details.

Drafting

- Write your response in your response booklet.

Reviewing

- Reread your response to correct any errors that interfere with your ability to communicate your ideas to the audience.

(over)

If I am writing a **narrative**, did I

- establish a clear purpose?
- use a variety of techniques (e.g., dialogue, description, anecdote, rhetorical question, surprising fact) to engage my audience?
- convey a sense of significance of the experience?
- use a sequence of events that would unfold naturally for the reader?
- use concrete words and sensory details?

If I am writing to provide **information or explain**, did I

- establish a focused purpose?
- anticipate the needs of my audience?
- incorporate relevant background and contextual information from the reading passage (if a passage is provided)?
- use general and specific details and examples to support my thesis?
- use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary?

If I am writing my **opinion** or creating an **argument**, did I

- establish and maintain focus?
- anticipate audience's knowledge and concerns?
- provide relevant background and contextual information from the reading passage (if a passage is provided)?
- use facts, details and examples to support my opinion/argument?
- use words and phrases to clarify the relationship among opinions/claims, reasons, and evidence?