



## Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Reading & Writing Composition Element Definitions, Grades 6-12

Composition Elements	<u>Composition Element Definitions, Grades 6-12</u>
Clarity and Coherence	<p><b>Clarity:</b> how the writer establishes a controlling idea and focuses on the prompt/task throughout the composition</p> <p><b>Coherence:</b> how the writer links ideas, paragraphs, sentences and words to create a smooth flow of information/thoughts for the reader</p> <p>Both <b>Clarity and Coherence</b> require the writer to anticipate the needs of the audience and to adhere to the norms of the mode of writing identified in the prompt/task. All thoughts and ideas should be focused toward achieving the goals of the prompt/task.</p>
Counterclaims	<p><b>Counterclaims:</b> how the writer acknowledges opposing arguments, making claim(s) to offset and rebut opposing claim(s) It is essential for the writer to anticipate and negate opposing arguments to create counterclaims.</p> <p>*Although counterclaims appear in grades 7-12 <i>Kentucky Academic Standards for Reading and Writing</i>, Composition 1, grade 6 students are expected to begin acknowledging opposing claims as a foundational piece leading to the full shift into creating counterclaims in grade 7.</p>
Support	<p><b>Support:</b> how the writer develops all components of the prompt/task with evidence, reasoning, details and/or descriptions</p>
Sourcing	<p><b>Sourcing:</b> how the writer cites, quotes and/or paraphrases evidence or ideas from provided or researched texts</p>
Organization	<p><b>Organization:</b> how the writer builds an overall structure for the composition by sequencing ideas, evidence, details and/or descriptions to communicate and to make sense to the reader</p>
Language/Conventions	<p><b>Language:</b> how the writer uses appropriate word choice to enhance the composition by creating and adhering to a task-appropriate tone, voice and writing style</p> <p><b>Conventions:</b> how the writer uses Standard English grammar, usage, spelling, capitalization and punctuation to communicate</p>