

CMGE ENGLISH WRITING MATRIX

Intermediate Grades (Middle School)

Name	ELL/ESL Writing Level	Date	
Grade/Class			

To be used with an unedited writing sample (CMGE assessment writing sample or classroom sample). These expectations vary according to the age and grade of the student.

SUPPORT LEVEL	CMGE 1	CMGE 2	CMGE 3	CMGE 4	CMGE 5
Snapshot	Represents ideas through pictures, letters,words or first language	Writes ideas phrases, short sentences or a basic paragraph on a familiar topic	Writes ideas in sentences or a paragraph (s) on familiar or subject area topics	Writes ideas in clear, detailed and connected sentences, or paragraphs on many topics	Writes clearly in a variety of genres for different purposes in detailed interesting manner
VOCABULARY Choice and range of vocabulary	 Uses pictures, letters or common words Uses common vocab on familiar topics 	 Uses common words Uses familiar high frequency words Uses some simple prepositions e.g. over,under,on 	 Uses common vocabulary Uses some specialized academic content vocabulary Uses more prepositions e.g. above, between Sometimes uses figurative language 	 Uses descriptive vocabulary Uses specialized academic content vocabulary Uses many prepositions and two-word verbs accurately Uses figurative language 	 Uses varied descriptive vocabulary Uses a wide range of specialized academic content vocabulary Uses uncommon prepositions Uses figurative language effectively
MEANING Convey intended meaning/ideas	 Writes letters, basic words or phrases, Meaning is not clear 	 Writes simple phrases or sentences Few details to support meaning May connect basic ideas using conjunctions: or, and 	 Writes using phrases and sentences Meaning has some details and is comprehensible Combines ideas using compound sentences with words such as and, or, but, because 	 Writes a clear, descriptive message with elaboration Uses compound or complex sentences 	 Writes a sophisticated and interesting message for intended purpose Uses complex sentences Provides supporting details and examples
FORM Organization, Connections	 Uses pictures, First Language Organizes ideas using letters or common words with omissions 	 Uses phrases, sentences or simple paragraph Uses a few transition words:.first, second Conveys an idea with some basic details 	 Uses sentences or paragraphs Uses some transition words: first, then, finally Writes on topic with some clear details 	 Uses several connected and developed sentences or paragraphs Uses higher transition words therefore, however Organizes ideas with a sense of beginning, middle and end 	 Uses purposeful language Uses a variety of effective transition words furthermore, in spite of, due to Organizes ideas clearly in a paragraph or multiparagraphs
CONVENTIONS Capitals, Punctuation, Spelling and Grammar	 Attempts capitalization and periods Attempts to spell some familiar words Attempts present tense 	 Uses some punctuation and uses capitalization at beginning of sentence Spells basic words with some accuracy and uses invented spelling Uses present tense 	 Uses common punctuation and capitals Spells academic words with some accuracy Uses simple present, past, future tense with some accuracy Uses some subject/verb agreement 	 Uses capitals, commas and periods and other common punctuation Spells familiar and many academic words with accuracy Uses various verb tenses Uses consistent subject/verb agreement 	 Uses capitalization and a variety of punctuation with accuracy Spells many academic words with accuracy Uses a variety of verb tenses with accuracy Uses a range of subject/verb agreement