



Grade Eight Writing Standards

CAPITALIZATION

- Beginning of a sentence
- The word "I"
- Interrupted dialogue
- Proper nouns and adjectives
- Titles of books, magazines, shows, etc.
- First word in a quotation
- Languages, nationalities, races, religions

PUNCTUATION

- End of every sentence
- Commas in a series
- Commas in day, month, year within a sentence
- Comma in a compound sentence with a FANBOY
- Comma between two adjectives before a noun
- Commas in direct address, with interrupters, transitions
- Comma after introductory words-long phrase or clause
- Ellipses, semicolon, colon usage
- Titles of books, magazines, shows, etc.

SPELLING

- Common contractions that replace not
- Plural nouns vs. possessives
- Common homophones:
 - to, two, too
 - there, their, they're
 - you're, your
 - its, it's
 - were, where
 - loose, lose
 - a lot, allot
 - could/would have (not of)
 - past tense of regular verbs
 - plurals: drop "y" add "ies"

Words that have been studied or that are included in a word bank

GRAMMAR

- Agreement of subject/verb and pronouns
- Verb tense consistency and variety
- Sentence structure variety, complexity

Grading Guidelines

	Assignments	Tests and Quizzes
For Language Arts Class	-2 for each error up to 8 points	-1 per error up to 6 points
For All Other Classes	-1 for each error up to 6 points	-1 per error up to 4 points