

Descriptive Writing—Grade 3—Student’s Name: _____

Cajon Valley Union School District
Standards-Based Writing Scoring Guide

	BELOW STANDARD (1) (Below Basic)	APPROACHING STANDARD (2) (Basic)	MEETS STANDARD (3) (Proficient)	EXCEEDS STANDARD (4) (Advanced)	SCORE
CONTENT	In my writing I need to: ___ Write about the prompt ___ Include detailed descriptions of a person, place or thing ___ Use adjectives, exact verbs and/or sensory language	My writing: ___ Gets off topic for the prompt ___ Uses simple description of a person, place or thing ___ Does not use enough adjectives, exact verbs or sensory language	My writing meets standard because the majority of the time I remembered to: ___ Write to the topic of the prompt ___ Write a detailed description that paints a picture of a person, place or thing ___ *Use adjectives, exact verbs and/or sensory language	My writing meets all descriptors in “meets standard” column and includes 1 of 2: ___ Uses specific details to describe the topic (Word Choice) ___ Uses appropriate metaphor or simile	
ORGANIZATION & FOCUS	In my writing I need to: ___ Write one paragraph ___ Write a topic sentence ___ Include 3 descriptive sentences that support the topic and are logically sequenced ___ Write a concluding sentence ___ Use correct margins and spacing between words ___ Write legibly	My writing: ___ Does not contain a complete paragraph ___ Is not indented ___ Needs a more detailed topic sentence ___ Includes 3 sentences but some lack description, do not support the topic, or are not in a logical order ___ Has a concluding sentence but does not create a feeling of closure ___ Does not have consistent margins or spacing between words ___ Is not legible enough for the reader to be able to understand what I have written	My writing meets standard because the majority of the time I remembered to: ___ Write one paragraph ___ Indent ___ Write a topic sentence that draws one’s attention and states the main idea ___ *Include at least 3 descriptive sentences that support the topic and move through a logical sequence ___ Write a concluding sentence that pulls the paragraph together ___ Use correct margins and spacing between words ___ Write legibly	My writing meets all descriptors in the “meets standard” column and includes: ___ One or more paragraphs that are focused and well sequenced	
LANGUAGE CONVENTIONS	In my writing I need to: ___ Use complete sentences ___ Use a variety of ways to begin sentences ___ Keep subject/verb agreement ___ Use correct grammar (nouns, verbs, adjectives, pronouns, articles and compound words) ___ Use correct punctuation according to 3 rd grade standards ___ Use correct capitalization according to 3 rd grade standards ___ Spell grade level words correctly	My writing is inconsistent in: ___ Using complete sentences ___ Using a variety of ways to begin sentences ___ Keeping subject/verb agreement ___ Using correct grammar (nouns, verbs, adjectives, pronouns, articles and compound words) ___ Using correct punctuation according to 3 rd grade standards ___ Using correct capitalization according to 3 rd grade standards ___ Spelling grade level words correctly; errors may cause distraction	My writing meets standard because the majority of the time I remembered to: ___ Write complete sentences ___ Use a variety of ways to begin sentences ___ Keep subject/verb agreement ___ Use correct grammar (nouns, verbs, adjectives, pronouns, articles and compound words) ___ Use correct punctuation according to 3 rd grade standards ___ Use correct capitalization according to 3 rd grade standards ___ Spell grade level words correctly; errors do not cause distraction	My writing meets all descriptors in “meets standard” column and includes 1 of 2: ___ Uses a wide variety of sentence structures (compound or complex) ___ Takes risks spelling above grade level words.	
TOTAL SCORE	3 – 5 Below Basic	6 - 8 Basic	9 – 10 Proficient	11 – 12 Advanced	
	*Descriptor must be met to meet standard		Proficient: 3 of 3 and 6 of 7		