**Six + One Writing Traits**

**1. Organization** is the internal structure, the thread of central meaning, the logical and sometimes intriguing pattern of the ideas within a piece of writing.

**2. Ideas and Content** are the main message, the content of the piece, the theme, together with the details that enrich and develop that theme.

**3. Word Choice** is the use of rich, colorful, precise language that moves and enlightens the reader.

**4. Conventions and Mechanics** refer to the mechanics of writing: spelling, paragraph formatting, grammar and usage, punctuation, and use of capitals.

**5. Sentence Fluency** is the rhythm and flow of the language, the sound of word patterns, the way in which the writing plays to the ear and not just to the eye.

**6. Voice** is the heart and soul, the magic, and wit along with the feeling and convention of the individual writer coming through the words.

**+1** Presentation zeros in on the form and layout of the text, type of paragraph, its readability; the piece should be pleasing to the eye.