Quick Scale: Grade 3 Writing Stories and Poems

The Quick Scale *is a summary of the* Rating Scale *that follows. Both describe student achievement in March-April of the school year. Stories and poems are usually expected to be carefully revised, edited, and proofread.*

Aspect	Not Yet Within Expectations	Meets Expectations (Minimal Level)	Fully Meets Expectations	Exceeds Expectations
SNAPSHOT	*The writing is often very brief, disjointed, or illogical, and flawed by repeated basic errors. The student needs ongoing support.*	*The writing presents loosely connected events or ideas, with some detail; parts may be hard to follow or flawed by frequent errors.*	*The writing is a complete, easy-to-follow story or poem with some interesting detail.*	*The writing is an engaging story or poem with some originality.*
MEANING • ideas and information • use of detail	• may not have a "story problem" or purpose • few details	• often based on another selection • some details	• some individuality; considers reader's reaction • some supporting details add "colour"	• some originality and creative development; tries to make an impact • supporting details add "colour"
STYLE • clarity, variety, and impact of language	• basic, simple • sentences often long and rambling or short and stilted; little variety	• generally simple language; some description • repeats simple and compound sentences (some may run on)	• clear; some "story language" and description • some variety in sentences	• clear, varied, and often expressive; may experiment with new language • flows smoothly; varied sentences
FORM STORIES • beginning, middle, end • sequence • characters • dialogue • connecting words	• may be very brief; loosely related events without an introduction • characters are not described; no clear dialogue	• includes beginning, middle, and end; often loses focus and ends abruptly • characters are identified; may include dialogue	• develops logically sequenced events from a "story problem" to a reasonable solution • characters have some individuality; often includes dialogue	• develops smoothly from an engaging opening; tries to create suspense or interest; reaches a satisfying conclusion • characters have personality; dialogue often sounds natural
POEMS • poetic form • descriptive language	• needs a frame or template • may be one-word responses	• attempts a poetic form, but often writes in sentences • attempts some descriptive language	• attempts to use a poetic form; may lapse in places • some descriptive language	• uses a poetic form • includes some descriptive and figurative language
CONVENTIONS • complete sentences • spelling • capitals • end of sentence punctuation • correct pronouns	• frequent basic errors affect meaning • may be hard to read	• may include several errors, but these do not interfere with basic meaning • legible	• may include some errors, but these do not interfere with meaning • legible; clearly presented	• few errors; these are usually caused by taking risks with newly acquired or complex language • legible; care in presentation