

Contestant Number \_\_\_\_\_

Contestant Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(to be filled in after judging)

## UIL A+ Ready Writing Evaluation Sheet: Elementary, Middle School, and Junior High

Evaluation criteria are listed in the order of importance. Write the number that indicates the quality in each of the sub-areas and tally the points.

(50%) \_\_\_\_\_/100

**INTEREST:** Writing exhibits originality of thought, analytical acuteness and overall coherence of exposition.

	<u>POOR</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>EXCELLENT</u>
Perceptive ideas	_____/7	_____/13	_____/19	_____/25
Originality	_____/7	_____/13	_____/19	_____/25
Examples	_____/7	_____/13	_____/19	_____/25
Title	_____/7	_____/13	_____/19	_____/25

(35%) \_\_\_\_\_/70

**ORGANIZATION:** Each paragraph develops a clear idea or ideas and contributes to an understanding of the prompt.

	<u>POOR</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>EXCELLENT</u>
Student answers prompt consistently <i>(either through supporting details, thesis, and/or plot points and character development)</i>	_____/3	_____/7	_____/11	_____/14
Well-developed paragraphs, focused on an idea or ideas	_____/3	_____/7	_____/11	_____/14
Transition	_____/3	_____/7	_____/11	_____/14
Support for student's response to prompt	_____/3	_____/7	_____/11	_____/14
Composition clarity (as a whole)	_____/3	_____/7	_____/11	_____/14

(15%) \_\_\_\_\_/30

**CORRECTNESS OF STYLE:** Writing avoids errors in sentence structure, punctuation, grammar, word usage and spelling that hinder clear communication.

	<u>POOR</u>	<u>FAIR</u>	<u>GOOD</u>	<u>EXCELLENT</u>
Punctuation	_____/1	_____/3	_____/5	_____/6
Sentence structure	_____/1	_____/3	_____/5	_____/6
Grammar	_____/1	_____/3	_____/5	_____/6
Word Usage	_____/1	_____/3	_____/5	_____/6
Spelling	_____/1	_____/3	_____/5	_____/6

**TOTAL SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_/200

### CONSTRUCTIVE COMMENTS FOR THE CONTESTANT:

Please read "Instructions for the Judges" for Ready Writing before evaluating contestants' papers. While judges are to consider all three elements in selecting the most effective compositions, they should weigh interest more than organization, and organization more than correctness of style.

### AREAS NEEDING IMPROVEMENT:

Judge's signature \_\_\_\_\_



# 2023-24 A+ Ready Writing

## INVITATIONAL

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose **one** of the following topics. Write the topic you have chosen at the top of your paper. **You should also include an original, creative title for your paper.** Remember you should not use your real name or that of your school.

### THIRD AND FOURTH GRADES

**Topic:** *My Superpower*

Think about what superpower you would choose to have if you could. Write an essay explaining the superpower and explain how you would use it.

**Topic:** *An elephant, an umbrella, and a magic wand*

Write a story that includes an elephant, an umbrella, and a magic wand. You may be as creative as you would like.



# 2023-24 A+ Ready Writing

## INVITATIONAL

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose **one** of the following topics. Write the topic you have chosen at the top of your paper. **You should also include an original, creative title for your paper.** Remember you should not use your real name or that of your school.

### FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADES

**Topic:** *Teamwork  
Benefits*

Think about the word teamwork. Next, write an essay explaining what teamwork means and how it benefits a situation.

**Topic:** *Social Media  
Impact*

Think about the impact of social media. In an essay, explain the impact of social media on society and whether it has a positive or negative impact.



# 2023-24 A+ Ready Writing

## INVITATIONAL

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose **one** of the following topics. Write the topic you have chosen at the top of your paper. **You should also include an original, creative title for your paper.** Remember you should not use your real name or that of your school.

### SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES

**Topic:** *My Goals*

Think about some of the goals you have for yourself. Write an essay explaining some of your goals and how you plan to achieve them.

**Topic:** *Your Brilliance*

Inspirational speaker Iyanla Vanzant said, "Accept and acknowledge your own brilliance. Stop waiting for others to tell you how great you are! Believe it for yourself and about yourself." What does Vanzant's quote mean, and how can you apply it to your life?



# 2023-24 A+ Ready Writing

## FALL/WINTER DISTRICT

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose **one** of the following topics. Write the topic you have chosen at the top of your paper. **You should also include an original, creative title for your paper.** Remember you should not use your real name or that of your school.

### THIRD AND FOURTH GRADES

**Topic:** *Free Time*

There are many things people like to do with their free time. Write an essay explaining what you like to do with your free time.

**Topic:** *Life in the Circus*

Imagine what the day in the life of a circus performer is like. Write an essay explaining the life of a circus performer being as creative as you would like.



# 2023-24 A+ Ready Writing

## FALL/WINTER DISTRICT

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose **one** of the following topics. Write the topic you have chosen at the top of your paper. **You should also include an original, creative title for your paper.** Remember you should not use your real name or that of your school.

### FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADES

**Topic:** *Giving Back*

In your opinion, why is it important to give back to the community? Write an essay explaining your opinion making sure to give reasons for your thoughts.

**Topic:** *Work and Luck*

Thomas Jefferson said, "I find that the harder I work, the more luck I seem to have." Write about what you think this quote means and apply it to your life in some way.



# 2023-24 A+ Ready Writing

## FALL/WINTER DISTRICT

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose **one** of the following topics. Write the topic you have chosen at the top of your paper. **You should also include an original, creative title for your paper.** Remember you should not use your real name or that of your school.

### SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES

**Topic:** *Half Empty or  
Half Full*

In your opinion, is the glass usually half empty or half full? Write an essay explaining reasons for your perspective.

**Topic:** *Opportunistic Failure*

Henry Ford said, "Failure is the opportunity to begin again more intelligently." In an essay, explain what this quote means and apply it to your own life in some way.



# 2023-24 A+ Ready Writing

## SPRING DISTRICT

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose **one** of the following topics. Write the topic you have chosen at the top of your paper. **You should also include an original, creative title for your paper.** Remember you should not use your real name or that of your school.

### THIRD AND FOURTH GRADES

**Topic:** *New Skill*

Think about a skill you would like to learn like riding a bike, playing an instrument, or juggling. Write an essay describing the skill and why you are interested in learning it.

**Topic:** *Alien Conversation*

Imagine you met an alien. Write an essay explaining the questions you would ask the alien and the responses you think you would receive.





# 2023-24 A+ Ready Writing

## SPRING DISTRICT

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose **one** of the following topics. Write the topic you have chosen at the top of your paper. **You should also include an original, creative title for your paper.** Remember you should not use your real name or that of your school.

### FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADES

**Topic:** *Another's Shoes*

Someone once said, "Before you judge another person, walk a mile in his/her shoes." Think about what this quote means. Next, write an essay explaining the quote's meaning and how you can apply it to your own life.

**Topic:** *The Antagonist's Story*

Think of a well-known antagonist (the main opponent of the main character) in literature such as Cinderella's wicked stepmother, Gaston from *The Beauty and the Beast*, Scar from *The Lion King*, or Ursula from *The Little Mermaid*. Next, write a story from that character's point of view explaining what "really happened" according to the character you chose.



# 2023-24 A+ Ready Writing

## SPRING DISTRICT

### INSTRUCTIONS

Choose **one** of the following topics. Write the topic you have chosen at the top of your paper. **You should also include an original, creative title for your paper.** Remember you should not use your real name or that of your school.

### SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES

**Topic:** *My Inspiration*

Think about what inspires you such as a person or activity. Write an essay explaining this inspiration and how it impacts your life.

**Topic:** *Racing Heart*

Write a creative story that begins with the sentence: Mark could feel his heart racing as he stood in front of the mirror....