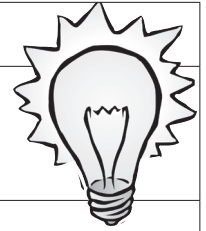


Traits Rubric for **Ideas**: Grades 3-12



Key question:

Does the writer engage the reader with fresh information or perspective on a focused topic?

		Not proficient			Proficient		
		1 Beginning	2 Emerging	3 Developing	4 Capable	5 Experienced	6 Exceptional
		Does not reflect a main idea or purpose; includes content that is off topic	Has a main idea that begins to emerge, but author's direction is unclear	States or implies a main idea, but is unclear, unfocused, inaccurate, and/or underdeveloped	Conveys a clear, focused, and accurate main idea with adequate development and/or support	Produces a clear, focused, accurate, and complex main idea with convincing development and/or support	Conveys a clear, focused, accurate, and significant main idea and includes unique, substantial insights that are fully developed and supported
	A. Main idea	Does not convey a main idea or topic	Focuses on a general topic but does not suggest a main idea	Suggests a main idea, but the direction of the piece is still unclear	Has a clear, focused main idea	Conveys a clear, focused, and substantive main idea	Conveys a clear, focused, substantive, and original main idea that drives the piece
	B. Details and support	Does not develop or support a main idea	Attempts to develop or support the main idea with limited, repetitious, faulty, and/or unclear information and/or details	Provides incidental support of the main idea with information that lacks specificity and relevance and may be inaccurate; may include some generic details In A/O writing at grade 7+, includes one or more counterclaims that are acknowledged but not addressed	Develops the main idea with generally accurate and relevant supportive information and/or details In A/O writing at grade 7+, addresses one or more counterclaims	Develops the main idea with specific, relevant, accurate information and/or some vivid details In A/O writing at grade 7+, addresses and thoroughly examines counterclaims	Develops the main idea with convincing, supportive information and/or concrete details that go beyond the obvious In A/O writing at grade 7+, thoroughly examines counterclaims and addresses them in original ways that enrich the author's claim
	C. Reasoning/ thinking	Does not show author's thinking in developing or connecting ideas	Generalizes about the topic without providing logical connections among ideas, or uses connections that are faulty	Begins to develop supporting ideas, some of which lack clarity or obvious logical connection	Presents useful information that helps the reader understand the author's reasoning, logic, or perspective	Presents useful, fresh information or perspective with logical reasoning that clarifies complex ideas	Conveys fresh, useful information using higher order thinking skills and convincing reasoning to provide unique insights into complex ideas