

What matters most?

- Developing strong ideas is the first priority in writing.
- Writing that is technically "perfect" does not necessarily score well. The best writing may have some errors in spelling and grammar but is interesting for the reader.
- Building and maintaining "writer stamina" is important for passing most standardized writing tests. Students have to be able to clearly and thoroughly express an idea —all in one sitting.



Here's what it means...

The message itself is more important than how correct the spelling, grammar, and punctuation are. The emphasis should be on *what* the writing says before looking at *how* it is presented.