

Frasier, M. M., Hunsaker, S. L., Lee, J., Finley, V. S., García, J. H., Martin, D., & Frank, E. (1995). *An exploratory study of the effectiveness of the staff development model and the research-based assessment plan in improving the identification of gifted economically disadvantaged students* (RM95224). University of Connecticut, The National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented. <https://nrcgt.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/953/2015/04/rm95224.pdf>

CHILDREN'S LANGUAGE USAGE EVALUATION SCALE (CLUES)

ELEMENT	ITEM	DESCRIPTORS	SCORING PROCEDURE
FLUENCY OF WRITING	1. Number of Ideas (Length)	(Dictated/Child Written # Categories by grade levels)	Score items either 0 or 1: 0 = item not present 1 = item present
	2. Flow of Ideas	Words flow smoothly or easily.	
LANGUAGE USAGE	3. Verbs	Descriptive verbs uncommon for age group	Record really terrific instances of an item in the Comment section of the score sheet. * Optional Features are not scored, but presence of these items are recorded under the space provided on the scoring sheet. <u>Total Items = 24</u> Fluency of Writing - 2 Language Used - 4 Story Structure - 6 Novelty - 7 Personal Interpretation - 5
	4. Adjectives	Descriptive adjectives uncommon for age group	
	5. Precision	Correct words used to describe or name people, objects, and events that are uncommon for age group.	
	6. Picturesque Speech	Especially effective words, phrases, slang, figures of speech, comparisons, or the creation of new words that are appealing to senses and create images in the reader's mind.	
STORY STRUCTURE	7. Unusual Beginning	Lead-in appearing with statistical infrequency in stories written by children at this grade level.	
	8. Unusual Dialog	Dialogue is used naturally and does not seem to be forced or artificial.	
	9. Unusual Ending	Different, unexpected, or rare conclusion. Elements of surprise are used effectively.	
	10. Unusual Plot	Plot develops in mature logical fashion giving relevant accounts of events. Tale unfolds before the reader's eyes.	
	11. Inclusion of Readers	Child speaks to or develops idea(s) with reader.	
	12. Vitality	There is much color and life portrayed. Reader may want to read again or share writing with others.	

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ELEMENT	ITEM	DESCRIPTORS	SCORING PROCEDURE
NOVELTY	13. Novelty of Names	Names for characters are unusual or rare.	
	14. Novelty of Locale	Unusual setting chosen for story.	
	15. Unique Punctuation & Expressional Devices	Novel or unusual punctuation, symbols, variety of handwriting, or other devices represent feeling or emotion.	
	16. Novel Devices	Novel contrivances, devices, or natural phenomena are used to describe people, objects, or events in the story.	
	17. Ingenuity in Solving Situations	Unique methods used to develop or describe resolution of situation(s) in the story.	
	18. Combination of Ideas in Unusual Relationships	Synthesis of ideas present or describe an unusual relationship.	
	19. Humor	Elements are brought together in a humorous fashion infrequently seen at this age level.	
PERSONAL INTERPRETATION	20. Unusual Ability to Express Emotional Depth	Emotional elements used enhance meaning of the story. Effective development or descriptions of characters' feelings are demonstrated.	
	21. Unusual Sincerity in Expressing Personal Problems	Real feelings expressed; reader has the sense that author is identifying self with problem or situation.	
	22. Unusual Ability to Identify Self with Others	Ability to show empathy in describing people, objects, or events.	
	23. Unusual Sensitivity	Perceptive to social and physical environment.	
	24. Unique Philosophical Thinking	Philosophical thinking is at a deep level for this age group.	

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ELEMENT	ITEM	DESCRIPTORS	SCORING PROCEDURE
OPTIONAL FEATURES	* Novelty of Ideas	Idea(s) seem to be rare. Idea(s) unusual for age level.	* Record presence of these items by listing specifics under Optional Features on the scoring sheet.
	* Novelty of Theme	Theme of entire story that appears rarely at this grade level. Demonstrates comprehension of mature topics.	
	* Novelty of Form	In response to write a short story, child creates verse, dramatic form or different type of writing.	
	* Facility in Beautiful Writing	Individual facility in utilizing words or expressions in a beautiful manner is rare at this age level.	
	* Vivid Presentation of Personal Experience	Personal-realistic experiences are presented in a sincere, vivid manner.	

Adapted From: Carlson Analytical Scale for Measuring the Originality of Children's Stories and Modified Palo Alto Writing Scale. Carlson, R. K. (1965). *Sparkling Words*. Berkeley, CA: Wagner Printing.

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Children's Language Usage Evaluation Scale

SCORING SHEET

0/1	ITEM	COMMENTS
	FLUENCY OF WRITING	
	1. Number of Ideas (Length)	
	2. Flow of Ideas	
	LANGUAGE USAGE	
	3. Verbs	
	4. Adjectives	
	5. Precision	
	6. Picturesque Speech	
	STORY STRUCTURE	
	7. Unusual Beginning	
	8. Unusual Dialogue	
	9. Unusual Ending	
	10. Unusual Plot	
	11. Inclusion of Readers	
	12. Vitality	
	NOVELTY	
	13. Novelty of Names	
	14. Novelty of Locale	
	15. Unique Punctuation & Expressional Devices	
	16. Novel Devices	
	17. Ingenuity in Solving Situations	
	18. Combination of Ideas in Unusual Relationships	
	19. Humor	
	PERSONAL INTERPRETATION	
	20. Unusual Ability to Express Emotional Depth	
	21. Unusual Sincerity in Expressing Personal Problems	
	22. Unusual Ability to Identify Self with Others	
	23. Unusual Sensitivity	
	24. Unique Philosophical Thinking	
OPTIONAL FEATURES: (Novelty of Ideas, Novelty of Theme, Novelty of Form, Facility in Beautiful Writing, Vivid Presentation of Personal Experience)		

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