

3 Question Technique

A helpful starting point

If your child needs to focus on the **Main Idea** in their piece:

- What is the real purpose of the piece? I would like to hear more of your ideas on this.
- What do you think the main theme/idea/issue is?
- What are the supporting details that allow you to think this?
- Can you be more specific with these details?
- How can you develop a more interesting perspective?

If your child needs to focus on the **Structure** in their piece:

- Does this order of ideas seem clear to you? How can you adapt this piece?
- What is the pattern of structure here? Does it work?

If your child needs to focus on **Voice** in their piece:

- Have you shown a strong understanding of purpose and audience?
- Do you know the purpose of this piece? Why and for whom are you writing this piece?
- Is your voice appropriate for this piece? – cheerful or melancholy, humorous or serious, confident or uncertain, confrontational or conciliatory, fanciful or authoritative, and so on.

If your child needs to focus on **Word Choice** in their piece:

- Focus on your selection of nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs etc what works and what doesn't work?
- Do your words signal sequence (then, while, later) and transitions (however, furthermore, therefore), create a logical flow?
- Are you
 - Applying Strong Verbs?
 - Selecting Striking Words and Phrases?
 - Using Specific and Accurate Words?
 - Choosing Words That Deepen Meaning?

If your child needs to focus on **Sentence Fluency** in their piece:

- Do your words and phrases flow through the piece of writing?
- Are your individual sentences well crafted?
- Is there a good variety of short, medium and long sentences?
- Writing fluently:
 - how does this passage look?
 - How does this passage sound?

- How does this passage connect with the person/purpose?

If your child needs to focus on **Conventions** in their piece:

- Have you used the following conventions to help you communicate clearly?
Conventions consist of:
 - spelling
 - punctuation
 - capitalisation
 - grammar/usage
 - paragraphing
- Are you
 - Checking Spelling?
 - Punctuating Effectively and Paragraphing Accurately?
 - Capitalising Correctly?
 - Applying Grammar and Usage?