



## ***Conventions***

Conventions include grammar, usage, pronoun reference, consistency in number and person, and mechanics (spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and paragraphing). The same word misspelled multiple times is only counted as one error. Conventions are addressed in writing standards 4 and 5.

- 5** The writer demonstrates a strong command of grammar, usage, and mechanics.
  - Grammar and usage are generally correct and demonstrate complexity.
  - There are few, if any, errors in spelling, and the student successfully attempts to spell complex words.
  - There are few, if any, errors in punctuation.
  
- 4** The writer demonstrates a reasonably strong command of grammar, usage, and mechanics.
  - Grammar and usage are for the most part correct.
  - There are few, if any, errors in spelling.
  - There are few, if any, errors in punctuation.
  
- 3** The writer demonstrates a command of grammar, usage, and mechanics but some errors may be evident.
  - Errors in grammar and usage while evident are not widespread in proportion to the amount of writing.
  - Simple words are spelled correctly. Incorrect spelling does not disrupt the reading of the response.
  - There may be errors in mechanics, particularly in comma use.
  
- 2** Errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics but some errors disrupt the reading of the response.
  - Errors in grammar and usage are numerous in proportion to the amount of writing and may create interruptions in reading the response.
  - Spelling errors may be prevalent and require some deciphering on the part of the audience.
  - Errors in mechanics may be evident.
  - The response may have insufficient writing to evaluate conventions
  
- 1** Numerous errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics create confusion.
  - Errors in grammar and usage are numerous in proportion to the amount of writing and create confusion for the audience.
  - Spelling errors may be prevalent and require deciphering on the part of the audience.
  - Errors in the basics of mechanics may be evident.
  - Awkward sentences create confusion and require deciphering on the part of the audience.
  - The response may have insufficient writing to evaluate conventions.