

# Conventions

## Grade 6

### 3.3.2 Spells accurately in final draft.

- Uses spelling rules and patterns from previous grades.
- Uses multiple strategies to spell.  
Examples:
  - visual patterns (e.g., *tough/enough/rough, right/night*)
  - homophones (e.g., *read* and *reed*)
  - affixes (e.g., *in-*, *im-*, *-spect*, *-fer*)
  - roots (e.g., *biology, telegraph*)
- Uses resources to correct own spelling.

### 3.3.3 Applies capitalization rules.

- Uses capitalization rules from previous grades.
- Capitalizes languages, races, nationalities, and religions correctly.
- Uses resources to correct capitalization.

### 3.3.4 Applies punctuation rules.

- Uses punctuation rules from previous grades.
- Uses commas in appositives (e.g., *Bob, the dog, was fun.*).
- Uses comma to set off direct address (e.g., *"Mom, may I go to the movies?"*).
- Uses apostrophe to show quotation within a quotation in dialogue (e.g., *He said, "Mom said, 'Clean your room.' "*).
- Uses parentheses correctly (e.g., *"A hypothesis (prediction) is a critical component of a scientific investigation."*).
- Uses a semi-colon between two independent clauses connected by a conjunctive adverb (e.g., *I studied late into the night; consequently, I passed the test.*).
- Uses resources to check punctuation.

### 3.3.5 Applies usage rules.

- Applies usage rules from previous grades.
- Shows agreement of pronoun and its referent (e.g., A person needs his or her own space.).
- Maintains consistent person.
- Uses parallel construction when listing verbs particularly in informational and technical writing.
  - parallel: A scientist observes, hypothesizes, and analyzes.
  - not parallel: A scientist observes, hypothesized, and analyzed.
- Uses resources to check usage.

### 3.3.6 Uses complete sentences in writing.

- May use fragments in dialogue as appropriate.

### 3.3.7 Applies paragraph conventions.

- Uses paragraph conventions (e.g., designate by indentation or block format, skipping lines between paragraphs).
- Provides detailed labeling, captions, headings, and subheadings when appropriate.

### 3.3.8 Applies conventional forms for citations.

- Cites sources according to prescribed format.

