

# Conventions

## Grade 6

3.3.2

*Spells accurately in final draft.*

- Uses spelling words and patterns from the 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.
- Capitalizes geographic regions (e.g., the West).
- 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 hypotheses (prediction) is a critical component of scientific investigation.).
- Uses semicolon correctly 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.