Conventions

Grade 8

3.3.2   *Spells accurately in final draft.*
- Uses spelling words and patterns from the previous grades.
- Uses multiple strategies to spell.
  Examples:
  - homophones (e.g., capital and capitol)
  - affixes (e.g., dis-, ir-, -ist, -ism)
  - Greek and Latin roots (e.g., circus, spiral, vision)
  - words from other languages (e.g., arena, buffet, soufflé, lariat)
  - frequently misspelled words (e.g., accommodation, cemetery, receive)
- Uses resources to correct own spelling.

3.3.3   *Applies capitalization rules.*
- Uses capitalization rules from previous grades.
- Uses capitals the title of a specific course (e.g., History 9A as opposed to history).
- Uses resources to check capitalization.

3.3.4   *Applies punctuation rules.*
- Uses punctuation rules from previous grades.
- Uses commas to enclose titles (e.g., Mohammed Abdul, M.D., is a pediatrician.).
- Places commas and periods inside quotation marks.
- Uses apostrophes to form plurals of letters or numbers (e.g., Know your ABC's.).
- Uses colon between title and subtitle (e.g., Write Source 2000: A Guide to Thinking, Writing and Learning).
- Uses diagonal slash (/) correctly:
  - in a fraction
  - to show choice
- Uses resources to check punctuation.

3.3.5   *Applies usage rules.*

- Applies usage rules from previous grades.
- Identifies and corrects past grammar and usage issues.
- Uses fewer vs. less correctly.
- Uses parallel construction when listing infinitive phrases.
  - parallel: Jamillah likes to hike, swim, and ride a bicycle.
  - not parallel: Jamillah likes to hike, to swim, and rides a bicycle.
- 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).
- Uses textual markers (e.g., rows, columns, and tables).

3.3.8   *Applies conventional forms for citations.*

- Cites sources according to prescribed format (e.g., MLA, APA).