

## NCTAE Playworks Write It Elementary Writer's Rubric

	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
Dramatic Action	Goals of characters drive the play and demand actions or responses to obstacles. The reader is excited to turn the page.	Most of the actions of the play come from characters working to reach goals and reacting to obstacles. The reader wants to keep reading.	Some of the actions of the play seem to come from character goals and/or reactions to obstacles. The reader is curious about what could happen.	Few actions in the play make sense for the character goals. If there are any obstacles, they seem forced or random. The reader may want to keep reading for a while.	The play does not seem driven by character needs and wants. The reader doesn't feel like a story is there.
Plot	The sequence of events—from main problem through climax and ending—tells the story and mostly builds audience curiosity.	The sequence of events—from main problem through climax and ending—tells the story, but feels forced and/or unsurprising.	A sequence of events is all there—from main problem through climax to ending. The story just feels like bits and pieces—it doesn't stay together.	The story goes in sequence, but is missing a climax or an ending.	The story order does not make sense and/or is missing a main problem.
Character	The reader wants the main character to succeed. Some characters have an individual voice and point of view, as well as goals. At least one character changes because of confronting obstacles.	The main character drives the play. A few other characters have an individual voice and goal/s. Some characters confront obstacles, but don't change.	The main character sometimes tries to solve the main problem. All of the characters have a little individuality of voice and goals. Characters might change, but not because they confronted obstacles.	A main character exists, but doesn't work to solve the main problem. Characters are a little different, but don't work to change anything in the play. Things just happen to them.	There is no main character. Characters' voices and goals sound all the same. No one changes because of the events in the play.
Style	Language and stage image are very helpful for telling this story. The story is original.	Word choice and stage image are mostly helpful for telling the story. The story has some surprising moments.	Word choice and stage image are sometimes used to tell the story. The story is forced and unsurprising.	Word choice does not help to tell a story. The writer shows little understanding of stage image.	Word choice is confusing to the reader. The writer shows no understanding of stage image.

### Definition of Terms:

- Character is an entity with intent/objectives.
- Plot is a sequence of events in which a character faces a crisis that forces a response and sets the character on a journey towards climax and resolution. The character may achieve his ultimate objective, may be defeated in his goals, but in the process, is transformed.
- Voice in playwriting is dialogue that is expressive of a unique self or selves.
- Stage Image refers to the setting and visual elements that the playwright uses to create the world of the play.