



Designed by teachers and the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, the 6+1 trait writing model organizes writing skills into 7 “traits” that provide a common language for talking about and celebrating writing. Pixie, and its online counterpart Wixie, are engaging creativity software you can use to support the 6+1 Trait Writing model.

6+1 Traits	Supporting Traits with Pixie and Wixie
<p>Ideas <i>The main message. Should be supported by details that are interesting, important, and informative.</i></p>	<p>Pixie and Wixie include a folder of graphic organizing templates, such as Venn Diagrams, clusters, and flowcharts, students can use to brainstorm ideas and determine the message they want their writing to convey.</p>
<p>Organization <i>The structure of the writing. Events proceed logically, information is given to keep reader interest, and conclusion has a resolution to the problem.</i></p>	<p>Pixie and Wixie include a wealth of writing templates, like Diagram the Plot and Sentence Strips, students can use to organize their thoughts and add structure and significance to their writing.</p>
<p>Voice <i>The sense that a real person is talking to us and cares about the message.</i></p>	<p>Students can use Pixie and Wixie to create a public service announcement about an issue they feel strongly about, giving them insight into the power of voice and ideas for using it to provide perspective and strengthen their writing.</p>
<p>Word Choice <i>The vocabulary the writer uses to convey meaning.</i></p>	<p>Human beings go from images to words, and students can improve their word choices and vocabulary using visual learning strategies. Having students examine an image in Pixie and Wixie and describe what they perceive will give them the opportunity to explore words they might not otherwise use in their writing.</p>
<p>Sentence Fluency <i>The rhythm and flow of the writing.</i></p>	<p>Students can use Pixie and Wixie’s recording feature to capture the rhythm and cadence of their writing. Once they hear the words being spoken, it is often easier to see where they need to make changes for more effective flow.</p>
<p>Conventions <i>How mechanically correct the writing is - spelling, punctuation, capitalization, grammar/usage, and paragraphing.</i></p>	<p>Pixie and Wixie include a spell check students can use to check for accuracy in text object or selection. Pixie and Wixie also contains an inline spell check so students immediately see misspelled words as they are writing.</p>
<p>Presentation <i>How the writing looks on the page.</i></p>	<p>With Pixie and Wixie, students can share their writing in the form of booklets, comics, trading cards, and online stories. These publishing methods continue to engage them in the writing process by providing an authentic context for their work.</p>