Virginia SOL Writing Student Checklist

Name _____ Date _____

How your writing is scored

Two domains, each scored **1 to 4**: **Composing/Written Expression** and **Usage/Mechanics**.

Score	Control of the domain
4	Consistent, though not necessarily perfect
3	Reasonable, but not consistent
2	Inconsistent; significant weakness
1	Little or none

Specific beats general

A score of 2 includes "listing general, underdeveloped statements." A clean paper can still score low.

Use a specific detail from the passage, then explain why it matters.

Composing/Written Expression

- [ ] I planned before I wrote.
- [ ] My central idea is clear and stays the same. **Grade 8 and up:** it takes a clear position or purpose.
- [ ] My ideas are in a logical order, with an introduction, transitions and a conclusion.
- [ ] I elaborated with relevant, specific details from the passage.
- [ ] My sentences are varied, and my word choice is specific.
- [ ] **Grade 8:** my conclusion takes a position or offers a solution when that fits.
- [ ] **EOC short paper:** I addressed counterclaims when appropriate.

Usage/Mechanics

- [ ] I edited grammar, capitals, punctuation and spelling.
- [ ] I used paragraph breaks.

My plan

My central idea	Specific detail from the passage	Why it matters

On the EOC short paper, at least two readers score you and Composing counts twice. The test is untimed but must be finished in one school day, with a 6,000-character limit and spell check. Student summary based on VDOE's writing scoring rubrics and Checklist for Writers; not an official VDOE document.