I have a topic and I know a lot about it.

**I’ve Got It!**
- I know A LOT about my topic.
- My writing is bursting with fascinating details.
- I’ve picked a topic that’s focused enough to handle.

**On My Way**
- I know enough about my topic to get started.
- Some of my details are too general.
- My topic might be a little too big.

**Just Beginning**
- I haven’t figured out what to say.
- My details aren’t clear.
- I’m still thinking about and looking for a topic.
I put my ideas in an order that makes sense.

**Organization**

**I’ve Got It!**
- I have a bold beginning, mighty middle, and excellent ending.
- All of my details are in the right places.
- The order of my ideas really works.

**On My Way**
- My beginning, middle, and ending are off to a good start.
- Most of my details fit.
- The order of my ideas makes sense.

**Just Beginning**
- My writing doesn’t have a clear beginning, middle, or ending.
- My details are jumbled and confusing.
- I have “stuff” on paper, but it’s not in order.
I made sure my writing sounds like me.

My First Scoring Guide, Version B

Voice

I've Got It!
- My writing sounds like me.
- The reader will know I care about my topic.
- I have the right amount of energy in this piece.

On My Way
- My writing is safe. The reader only gets a glimpse of me.
- I care a little about this topic.
- My energy is uneven in this piece.

Just Beginning
- I forgot to say what I think and feel about my topic.
- I really don't care at all about the topic.
- I'm bored and it shows.
I've picked colorful, just-right words.

**I've Got It!**
- I've picked exactly the right words.
- My words are colorful, fresh, and snappy.
- The words help my reader see my ideas.

**On My Way**
- Some of my words work well, but others don’t.
- I've used too many ordinary words.
- My words paint a general picture of the idea.

**Just Beginning**
- I'm not sure how to use words well.
- I've left out key words.
- Many of my words are the same or don’t make sense.
I wrote sentences that sound great.

My First Scoring Guide, Version B

**Sentence Fluency**

**I've Got It!**
- My sentences are well-built and easy to read aloud.
- The way my sentences begin makes my writing interesting.
- I’ve varied my sentence lengths.

**On My Way**
- I’ve got sentences! Some of them are hard to read aloud, though.
- A couple of my sentences begin in different ways.
- I might join short sentences or cut long ones in two.

**Just Beginning**
- I am having trouble making a sentence.
- My beginnings all sound the same.
- I haven’t varied my sentence lengths at all.
I cleaned up my writing for my reader.

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Conventions

I’ve Got It!
- My spelling is magnificent.
- All my capitals are in the right place.
- I used punctuation correctly.
- I’ve used correct grammar and added paragraphs where needed.
- I’ve done a great job proofreading.

On My Way
- Only simple words are spelled correctly.
- I’ve used capitals in easy spots.
- I’ve used correct punctuation in some places, but not in others.
- I proofread quickly and missed things.

Just Beginning
- My spelling makes it hard to read my words.
- I haven’t followed capitalization rules.
- I haven’t used punctuation well at all.
- I forgot to proofread.
I dressed up my writing so it’s ready to share.

My First Scoring Guide, Version B

**Presentation**

**I’ve Got It!**
- My paper is neat—no smudges or cross-outs.
- My letters are neatly formed.
- My margins frame my writing.

**On My Way**
- My paper can be read, but it’s not easy.
- Some of my letters are neatly formed, but some are not.
- My margins work in some places, but not in others.

**Just Beginning**
- My paper is very hard to read.
- My letters are not neatly formed at all.
- I forgot to use margins.