

Six Trait Trading Cards--

Fresh from The Hogwrites School of Writing
from <http://DenaHarrison.com>

Greetings! You have been accepted into the Hogwrites School of Writing! In order to begin your study, you must be sorted into six different houses based upon your skills as a writer. The houses are named based on the six traits of writing. (**Ideas, Organization, Voice, Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, and Conventions**) Once you have been sorted, you will work with your housemates to develop trading cards based upon the founder of the house, and his/her five most famous students.

Here is an example Trading Card from Joey, Age 12, to give you some background information on what a trading card looks like:

Joey's Trading Card is based on Luke Skywalker's Character from Star Wars

Luke Skywalker

Biggest Event: When Luke and his Father, Darth Vader, meet and fight for the first time.

Fashion: Dresses in robe-like clothing with a belt that has his light saber attached.

Worst Enemies: Darth Vader and the evil Empire

Scariest Battle Scene: When Luke is battling Darth Vader and gets his hand cut off. He then finds himself hanging from a metal antenna beneath Cloud City.

Pain in the Neck: C3P0 talks too much and is never quiet.

Each house will need the following:

A symbol for your trait

1 Founder Trading Card

5 Famous Students Trading Cards

Your trading cards will need to have the following information:

Side One:

Name (of the Famous Student/Founder):

House:

Special Skill:

Writing Advice Most Often Given:

Bio/Story:

Side Two:

An illustration of each character or photo

House of Ideas

Characters:

Ichabod Ideas: *Founder*—believes that like the foundation of a house, **IDEA DEVELOPMENT** serves as the solid base on which a good piece of writing rests. If you start with a solid idea, your writing can grow as big as you want.

Ian Ideas: *Student*—believes in the power of your **topic**. It should come from personal experience, be investigated thoroughly, be original, and be personally important.

Igor Ideas: *Student*—believes in the power of **focus** in writing. It should zoom in on what's important in your writing, be steady narrow and clear.

Inga Ideas: *Student*—believes in the power of **details** in writing. Details should be rich, important and interesting. She also believes in quality details over quantity details.

Irene Ideas: *Student*—believes in the power of **making sense**. Writing should be clear and easy to follow. The pieces should fit together and the ideas should connect.

Isaac Ideas: *Student*—believes in the power of **ownership**. Research should be written in your own words. Writing should show personal insight and be unique.

House of Organization

Characters:

Orville Organization: *Founder*—believes that **ORGANIZATION** is the structure of writing. Just as a house has an entrance, an exit, hallways that connect, and a sensible layout, so too does a piece of good writing.

Oliver Organization: *Student*—believes in the power of **blueprints** in writing. Blueprints are drawn before a house is built; writing should be “blue-printed” too! Writing should be planned with a graphic organizer, the order should make sense, and transitions should sound natural. The writer should be sure that the most important ideas in the piece receive the most attention.

Owen Organization: *Student*—believes in the power of good **beginnings** in writing. Good beginnings should hook or grab the reader. They should also contain an effective topic sentence and show where the reader is going.

Oscar Organization: *Student*—believes in the power of the **middle** of your piece of writing. The parts of your writing should fit together and the ideas should connect. This should be the heart of your paper.

Olivia Organization: *Student*—believes in the power of the **ending** of your piece of writing. A good ending might leave you thinking or wondering. It should also make the writing feel complete, satisfy the reader and tie things together.

Ophelia Organization: *Student*—believes in the power of a **title**. A good title should be memorable, catchy, and hint at the writing’s big idea.

House of Voice

Characters:

Valerie Voice: *Founder*--believes the author's VOICE—a.k.a. you!—should be present in every piece of writing you make. Sometimes your presence needs to be strong, but sometimes it should be kept subtle.

Vance Voice: *Student*—believes in the power of showing **your personality** in writing. Your writing should sound honest and sincere. It should show passion and confidence.

Vanessa Voice: *Student*—believes in the power of showing **your emotions** in writing.

Victor Voice: *Student*—believes in the power of showing **your style** in writing. Your writing should showcase your techniques and sound like you while taking a personal risk.

Veronica Voice: *Student*—believes in the power of showing **your point of view** in writing. Writing should show an opinion, consider perspectives; while being aware of your audience and showing sensitivity toward it.

Vincent Voice: *Student*—believes in the power of showing **your experience** in writing. A good writer knows his/her own voice, shows insight and be believable. They should also know their topic well.

House of Word Choice

Characters:

Walt Word Choice: *Founder*--believes the words you choose to include in your writing have profound impact on your reader.

Wanda Word Choice: *Student*—believes in the power of **verbs** in writing. They should be precise, and unique. The writer should provide a balance of action and linking verbs and be aware of synonyms.

Wendell Word Choice: *Student*—believes in the power of **adjectives** in writing. They should be precise, and unique. The writer should be aware that quality beats quantity and be aware of synonyms.

Wesley Word Choice: *Student*—believes in the power of **nouns** in writing. They should be precise, and unique. The writer should use purposeful pronouns and be aware of correct noun/pronoun agreement.

Wendi Word Choice: *Student*—believes in the power of **word pictures** in writing. These word pictures should contain sensory images, memorable phrases and be used when appropriate. Verbs, adjectives and nouns should work together.

Whitney Word Choice: *Student*—believes in the power of **word play** in writing. The writer should experiment with personification, onomatopoeia, alliteration, and effective similes/metaphors when appropriate. The writer should also try new vocabulary.

House of Sentence Fluency

Characters:

Shirley Sentence Fluency: *Founder*—believes that just as white clouds float peacefully in the sky, while thunder clouds arrive with alarm, sentences and phrases float through a piece of writing.

Sam Sentence Fluency: *Student*—believes in the power of **a variety of sounds** in writing. Sentences should sound natural and have rhythm and cadence. Writers might experiment with repetition and with language.

Sara Sentence Fluency: *Student*—believes in the power of **a variety of beginnings** in writing. Writers can experiment with different ways of beginning their sentences by using prepositions, conjunctions, participial phrases and question words.

Selma Sentence Fluency: *Student*—believes in the power of **a variety of sentence connections** in writing. Sentences should hang together—one should flow into the next with ease. The writer should use transitions and use connecting words and phrases. The writer should also experiment with appropriate semi colons and colons.

Seymour Sentence Fluency: *Student*—believes in the power of **a variety of complete sentence types** in writing. Writing should use some or all of the following: complex and simple, explanatory and imperative, declarative and interrogative as well as short and long sentences.

Sid Sentence Fluency: *Student*—believes in the power of **readability** in writing. Good sentences should sound natural when read aloud, be smooth and flowing and be carefully crafted. They should also use parallelism when appropriate.

House of Conventions

Characters:

Caleb Conventions: *Founder*—believes that the roof of a house—though planned from the beginning—is not built first. Think about **CONVENTIONS** near the end of your process.

Calvin Conventions: *Student*—believes in the power of **spelling**. A good writer should know their sight words, use the dictionary and abbreviate correctly. They should also double-check their vocabulary words.

Carlos Conventions: *Student*—believes in the power of **punctuation**. Good writing should have correct middle punctuation (commas, apostrophes, semi-colons), correct end punctuation (periods, question marks, exclamation points), correct hyphenation, and correct dialogue punctuation.

Cecilia Conventions: *Student*—believes in the power of **capitalization**. Good writing should have the correct capitalization of proper names, sentence beginnings and titles. Don't mis-use/overuse capitals.

Chelsey Conventions: *Student*—believes in the power of **grammar**. Good writing should have correct noun/verb agreement, pronoun/noun agreement and no slang.

Clancy Conventions: *Student*—believes in the power of **spacing**. Good writers know how to indent correctly. They also know to put a space between words while avoiding a space between paragraphs.