

## **ISAT - Student Writing Checklist Persuasive, Grade 6-8**

### **Focus**

- ✓ I use my introduction to set the purpose of my composition.
- ✓ I clearly state my position on the topic.
- ✓ I stay on the issue throughout the composition.
- ✓ I write a closing that effectively summarizes my position.

### **Support**

- ✓ I use specific examples and details to explain each of the points that I use to explain my position.
- ✓ I balance my use of detail and description throughout my composition.
- ✓ I use the same *voice*\* throughout my composition.
- ✓ I use a variety of specific and descriptive words and phrases.
- ✓ I use words correctly and purposefully.

### **Organization**

- ✓ My composition is arranged logically and makes sense.
- ✓ I use paragraphing to help organize my points.
- ✓ I use transition words and phrases to connect my sentences and paragraphs so that my composition flows smoothly when I read it.
- ✓ My sentences begin in different ways.
- ✓ My sentences are different lengths to make my composition more interesting for the reader.
- ✓ I avoid using the same words over and over again.

### **Conventions**

- ✓ I use complete sentences.
- ✓ I spell familiar words correctly.
- ✓ I use capitalization and punctuation correctly.
- ✓ I make sure that the subject of my sentence agrees with the verb.
- ✓ I use the same verb tense throughout my composition.

***Voice*** – The individuality of the writer coming through on the page. Voice gives writing a distinctiveness. The reader of the composition has the feeling that the writer is talking directly to him or her.