**Recognizing Features of Effective Writing:**

**the most fundamental way to assess writing**

To “Essay” is to organize and structure a collection of **generalizations** and **particulars**

**Color Coding Party:**

Thesis (the overall point on a topic, your conclusion to a question)

Assertion

Position

Topic Sentence

Controlling Idea

Any words that restate or echo central Idea

Topic Sentences

Extension of thesis or part of thesis

Focus Sentence

Minor Claim

Echo of Thesis

Evidence

(evidence is the foundation to the thesis; the “grass we walk on” to make our points and support our conclusions)

Examples

Text

Specifics

Facts

Concrete

Details

Commentary

(the insights that verify your evidence; the original thinking and reasoning that “lights up” your discussion)

Insights

Analysis

Elaboration

Reasoning

Testimony

Original Thinking