

# The Components of Written Language

The components of written language are handwriting, spelling, usage, vocabulary, and text structure. These can be broken down further into the following areas.

1. **Handwriting.** Fine motor skills, memory, orientation, placement, size, start and sequence, control, spacing and speed or rate of writing, in other words writing fluency.
2. **Spelling.** Phonology, orthography, morphology and semantics.
3. **Usage.** Capitalization, punctuation and syntax.
4. **Vocabulary.** Word knowledge, word retrieval and morphology.
5. **Text Structure.** Structure, coherence and unity.

For a full definition and understanding of each of these components I recommend the book, "[Writing Assessment and Instruction for Students with Learning Disabilities second edition](#)" by Nancy Mather, Barbara J Wendling and Rhia Roberts as well as my second webinar on [Informal Assessment of Writing and Spelling Deficits](#).