Arizona Writing Standard Articulated by Grade Level
as per Arizona Department of Education, www.ade.state.az.us/standards/contentstandards.asp

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Kindergarten
Consistently write left to right and top to bottom.
Space appropriately between words with some degree of accuracy.
Attempt simple sentences.
Write the 26 letters of the alphabet in lower case and upper case.
Distinguish between upper and lower case letters.
Use capital letters to begin “important” words, although may be inconsistent or experimental.
Use spaces between words.
Write left to right and top to bottom.
Write own name on personal work.
Participate in writing a variety of functional text (e.g. classroom rules, letters, experiments, recipes, notes/messages, labels, directions, posters, graphs/tables)
Participate in writing communications, with teacher as scribe, including friendly letters and thank-you notes.

Grade 1
Write legibly.
Write simple sentences.
Incorporate conventions into own text, including:
  a. spacing between words
  b. spacing between lines
  c. consistent left-right and up-down orientation
  d. placement of title
Use capital letters correctly for:
  a. the pronoun I
  b. the beginning of a sentence
  c. names
Write own name on personal work.
Write a variety of functional text (e.g. classroom rules, letters, experiments, recipes, notes, messages, labels, directions, posters, graphs/tables)
Participate in writing communications, with teacher as scribe, including friendly letters and thank-you notes.

Grade 2
Write legibly.
Write simple sentences.
Use a variety of sentence beginnings and lengths.
Use capital letters for:
  a. the pronoun I
  b. the beginning of a sentence
  c. proper nouns (i.e. names, days, months)
Write own name on personal work.
Write expository texts (e.g. labels, lists, observations, journals).
Write a variety of functional text (e.g. classroom rules, letters, experiments, recipes, notes, messages, labels, directions, poster, graphs/tables).
Write communications including friendly letters, thank-you notes.
Grade 3
Write legibly.
Write simple and compound sentences.
Use capital letters for:
   a. proper nouns (i.e. names, days, months)
   b. titles
   c. names of places
   d. abbreviations
   e. literary titles (i.e. book, story, poem)
Record information (e.g. observations, notes, list, charts, map labels and legends) related to the topic.
Write an expository paragraph that contains:
   a. a topic sentence
   b. supporting details
   c. relevant information
Write in a variety of expository forms (e.g. summary, newspaper article, reflective paper, log, journal).
Write a variety of functional text (e.g. directions, recipes, procedures, rubrics, labels, graphs/tables).
Write communications, including:
   a. thank-you notes
   b. friendly letters
   c. formal letters
   d. messages
   e. invitations

Grade 4
Write legibly.
Write simple and compound sentences.
Use capital letters correctly. (see 3rd grade examples)
Record information (e.g. observations, notes, lists, charts map labels and legends) related to the topic.
Write in a variety of expository forms (e.g. essay, summary newspaper article, reflective paper, log, journal).
Write a variety of functional text (e.g. directions, recipes, procedures, rubrics, labels, graphs/tables).
Write communications correctly. (see 3rd grade examples)

Grade 5
Write legibly.
Use a structure that fits the type of writing (e.g. letter format, narrative, lines of poetry).
Place details appropriately to support the main idea.
Create an ending that provides a sense of resolution or closure.
Construct a paragraph that groups sentences around a topic.
Write simple and compound sentences.
Use capital letters correctly for proper nouns.
Punctuate endings of sentences correctly.
Use commas to punctuate correctly.
Use quotation marks to punctuate simply dialog and titles.
Use the parts of speech correctly in simple sentences.
Write an expository paragraph correctly.
Write in a variety of expository forms.
Write a variety of functional text.
Write communications correctly. (see 3rd grade examples)
Write a reflection to a literature selection (e.g. journal entry, book review).
Write an informational report that includes main ideas and relevant details.