A single point rubric template, and when to use one

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A free single point rubric template: one standard per row, growth on the left, going beyond on the right. Build it in Peabody's maker or start from an I can list.

A single point rubric names one standard for each criterion, what meeting the goal looks like, and leaves an empty column on each side: "Areas for growth" on the left and "Evidence of going beyond" on the right. You write in the outside columns instead of circling a level. In Peabody Teach's free rubric maker, it is one switch: set "Kind of rubric" to Single-point, and print or copy it. No sign-in, no ads, and Peabody is free through the end of 2026.

This post is about our own tool. What it says about the maker comes from its code as of 30 October 2026.

What a single point rubric looks like

- Areas for growth: · Criteria: Strategy: I can choose a strategy that fits and show it. · Evidence of going beyond:
- Areas for growth: · Criteria: Accuracy: I can compute correctly and label my answer. · Evidence of going beyond:
- Areas for growth: · Criteria: Explanation: I can explain my thinking in words. · Evidence of going beyond:

That is the 3–5 band of our math problem solving rubric, three of its four rows, turned single-point. The middle column says what "meets" means. Everything else is your handwriting.

When to use one, and when not to

Single point rubrics are good at feedback and less good at sorting. Some honest guidance from a teacher's chair:

- Drafts and conferences. You want to write "Your second paragraph needs a reason" in the left column, not circle a 2.
- A new skill. When students are first trying something, a list of four levels can be a lot to read. One clear standard per row is easier to hold in mind.
- Self-assessment. Students can write their own evidence in the right column before you see the work.
- Not for every final grade. If your school needs a number for each criterion, an analytic rubric with levels and points does that job better. The maker does both, and the same rubric can switch back and forth.

Build one in the maker

1. Open teach.peabody.kids/make/rubric.
2. Under "Kind of rubric", press Single-point. The grid becomes one box per criterion: the name, and the standard.
3. Write each standard in a sentence. Each holds up to 220 characters.
4. Set the number of criteria (1 to 8) with the buttons.
5. Print it, or press "Copy as a table" and paste it into Google Docs or Word.

The printed page is landscape, with the three columns, the criterion name in bold over its standard, and a line at the top that says "Write what you see in the outside columns." There is a name and date line if you leave that box ticked, and a comments line at the bottom. Levels, points and weights are hidden in this mode, because a single point rubric doesn't use them. They come back if you switch to Levels.

The three starter templates in the maker (writing, oral presentation and project) already have a standard for every row. Pick one, switch to Single-point, and the standards are filled in.

Start from an "I can" list

Every premade rubric on Peabody Teach has an "I can" line for each row, written in a student's voice: "I can tell what the problem asks," or "I can plan a fair test that changes only one thing." On each premade page:

- "Print the 'I can' checklist" prints that band's lines as a student checklist.
- "Open in the maker" loads the rubric with the "I can" lines already set as the standards. Switch to Single-point and you have a single point rubric written for that grade band.

That gives you three versions of the same goals: the full grid for grading, the single point rubric for feedback, and the checklist for students to keep in a folder.

What it doesn't do

- No sign-in, so no cloud saving. The rubric stays in this browser and in the page's link after the #, which our server never receives.
- No AI drafting. Starters and premade rubrics were written ahead of time and checked by a person.
- No space for names or comments on the screen. The outside columns are for pen on paper, or for typing in your own copy after you paste it. Don't type student names into any online tool, ours included.

Try it this week

- Hand out the single point version with a draft, then the analytic version with the final.
- Ask students to fill the right column first, with one thing they did that went past the standard.

- Keep it to three or four rows. The columns need room for writing.

The full-grid version is in an analytic rubric for elementary. Peabody is also a free reading site for kids: the stories your students can read at home are in the library.

Questions

What is a single point rubric?

A rubric with one standard for each criterion, describing what meeting the goal looks like, and a blank column on each side: areas for growth and evidence of going beyond. It gives feedback in words rather than a score for each level.

Is there a free single point rubric template?

Yes. Peabody Teach's rubric maker makes single point rubrics with one switch, and prints them or copies them into Google Docs or Word. It is free through the end of 2026, with no sign-in.

Can I turn an analytic rubric into a single point rubric?

In the maker, yes: switch "Kind of rubric" to Single-point. A premade rubric opened in the maker uses its "I can" lines as the standards, and the starter templates have standards already written. Switch back to Levels and the cells are still there.

Free at peabody.kids/blog/single-point-rubric-template