Essential Elements of Measurable Annual Goals

Key Question: What should the child be doing a year from now?

Purpose: To describe what a child can reasonably be expected to accomplish within 12 months with specially designed instruction and related services. Measurable annual goals enable the child to be involved in and progress in age appropriate activities.

Definition: A measurable annual goal
- is directly related to the needs identified in the PLAAFP
- sets the direction for working with the child
- uses the baseline established in the PLAAFP as a starting point to monitor progress
- is stated in clear terms
- has four parts: time frame, conditions, behavior, and criterion

Key Characteristics:
- describes what the child will do
- measurable
- meaningful
- functional
- objective
- comprehensive

Writing Strategy
Describe the behavior the child will be doing when the goal is reached. Include the time frame, the conditions in which the behavior will be seen, the specific behavior to be achieved, and what level/degree will be used to identify if the goal has been achieved.