

Scoring Rubric for Text-Based Writing Prompts

This scoring rubric can be used to rate student responses to any of the writing prompts in the ELA/Literacy mini-assessments developed by Student Achievement Partners. Click here for a list of ELA/Literacy mini-assessments to use in your classroom.

	4	3	2	1
Reading Comprehension	 Provides an in-depth and accurate analysis of what is stated in the text and/or what can be inferred from the text(s) Provides complete and relevant textual evidence to support the analysis, showing thorough comprehension of ideas in the text(s). 	 Provides an accurate analysis of what is stated in the text and/or what can be inferred from the text(s) Provides relevant textual evidence to support the analysis, showing comprehension of ideas in the text(s). 	 Provides a somewhat accurate analysis of what is stated in the text and/or what can be inferred from the text(s) Provides limited relevant textual evidence to support the analysis, showing a basic comprehension of ideas in the text(s). 	 Provides a minimally accurate analysis of what is stated in the text and/or what can be inferred from the text(s) Provides little to no textual evidence or provides irrelevant textual evidence, showing limited or no comprehension of ideas in the text(s).
Development of Ideas /Use of Evidence	Presents clear and coherent central ideas, addressing all relevant concepts and supporting with relevant and extensive details from the text(s)	 Has an evident central idea developed through the use of textual support and may include relevant general statements as well as some specific textual details Introduces few, if any, details from outside the text(s) 	 Provides a central idea that may be unclear and cluttered by irrelevant details Has limited textual evidence in support of central idea or uses many details from outside the text(s) 	Lacks central idea; development of ideas is minimal or non-existent

Organization	 Demonstrates effective, logical, and clear structure Exhibits strong use of transitions to create clear and logical relationships Includes effective and logical introduction and conclusion 	 Shows organization that is mostly logical but not completely clear Exhibits use of transitions to clarify some relationships Has both an introduction and conclusion 	 Attempts organization but is disorganized Demonstrates limited use of transitions to clarify relationships Is missing either an intro or conclusion or includes weak examples 	 Lacks organization and is difficult or impossible to follow Demonstrates no effective use of transitions and connections among ideas are missing Reflects no identifiable introduction or conclusion
Style	 Demonstrates a writing style that is appropriate to audience Reflects a controlled writing style and illustrates the use of effective and varied sentences and paragraphs Reflects precise and carefully selected word choice for clarity and effect Develops strong and vivid images (narrative only) 	 Demonstrates understanding of audience through writing style fairly consistently Reflects a generally controlled writing style but may lack variety in sentence length and structure Reflects use of language that is functional and appropriate Includes some descriptive language (narrative only) 	 Demonstrates a writing style that reflects little knowledge of audience Uses some awkward constructions or demonstrates repeated use of a particular sentence structure Uses words that are monotonous and often repetitious Reflects inappropriate or inaccurate use of description (narrative only) 	 Reflects a writing style that is inappropriate for audience or does not demonstrate knowledge of audience Demonstrates the use of fragmented or run on sentences that make the essay difficult or impossible to read with understanding. Demonstrates limited range of words Includes many words that are misused
Conventions	Reflects exceptional control of conventions; errors are few and minor	Reflects control of most writing conventions; contains occasional errors that do not interfere with clarity of message	Reflects limited control of conventions; contains frequent errors that may begin to interfere with understanding	Reflects numerous errors that make the text difficult or impossible to read