

Delaware Student Testing Program - General Rubric for Writing

The following characteristics determine the success of the response in meeting the needs of the audience and fulfilling the writing purpose.

Score of 5		Score of 4	Score of 3	Score of 2	Score of 1
<p>Score point 5 meets all the criteria listed in score point 4. In addition, a paper receiving this score shows an exceptional awareness of readers' concerns and needs.</p> <p>The student may have shown an exceptional use of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development strategies specific to the purpose for writing • Distinctive style, voice, and tone • Literary devices • Compositional risks 	ORGANIZATION	Unified with smooth transitions, a clear and logical progression of ideas, and an effective introduction and closing.	Generally unified with some transitions, a clear progression of ideas, and an introduction and closing.	Minimally unified and may lack transitions or an introduction or closing.	Lacks unity.
	DEVELOPMENT	Sufficient, specific, and relevant details that are fully elaborated.	Specific details but may be insufficient, irrelevant, or not fully elaborated.	Some specific details but may be insufficient, irrelevant, and/or not elaborated.	No or few specific details that are minimally elaborated.
	SENTENCE FORMATION	Consistently complete sentences with appropriate variety in length and structure.	Generally complete sentences with sufficient variety in length and structure.	Some sentence formation errors and a lack of sentence variety.	Frequent and severe sentence formation errors and/or a lack of sentence variety.
	STYLE/WORD CHOICE	A consistent style with precise and vivid word choice.	Some style and generally precise word choice.	Sometimes general and repetitive word choice.	Often general, repetitive, and/or confusing word choice.
	LANG. CONVENTIONS	Few, if any, errors in standard written English that do not interfere with understanding.	Some errors in standard written English that rarely interfere with understanding.	Several kinds of errors in standard written English that interfere with understanding.	Frequent and severe errors in standard written English that interfere with understanding.

For non-scorable responses see below:

- Blank
 - Off topic
 - Written in a language other than English
- Refusal
 - Illegible
 - Insufficient