NEW JERSEY REGISTERED HOLISTIC SCORING RUBRIC FOR WRITING (Modified)

In scoring, consider the written language	Inadequate Command	Limited Command	Partial Command	Adequate Command	Strong Command
Score	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
Content and Organization	• May lack opening and/or closing	• May lack opening and/or closing	• May lack opening and/or closing	• Generally has opening and/or closing	• Opening and closing
	• Minimal response to topic; uncertain focus	• Attempts to focus • May drift or shift focus	• Usually has single focus	• Single focus	• Single focus • Sense of unity and coherence • Key ideas developed
	• No planning evident; disorganized	• Attempts organization • Few, if any, transitions between ideas	• Some lapses or flaws in organization • May lack some transitions between ideas	• Ideas loosely connected • Transitions evident	• Logical progression of ideas • Moderately fluent • Attempts compositional risks
	• Details random, inappropriate, or barely apparent	• Details lack elaboration, i.e., highlight paper	• Repetitious details • Several unelaborated details	• Uneven development of details	• Details appropriate and varied
Usage	• No apparent control • Severe/numerous errors	• Numerous errors	• Errors/patterns of errors may be evident	• Some errors that do not interfere with meaning	• Few errors
Sentence Construction	• Assortment of incomplete and/or incorrect sentences	• Excessive monotony/same structure • Numerous errors	• Little variety in syntax • Some errors	• Some variety • Generally correct	• Variety in syntax appropriate and effective • Few errors
Mechanics	• Errors so severe they detract from meaning	• Numerous serious errors	• Patterns of errors evident	• No consistent pattern of errors • Some errors that do not interfere with meaning	• Few errors

NON-SCORABLE RESPONSES

NR = No Response	Student wrote too little to allow a reliable judgment of his/her writing.
OT = Off Topic/ Off Task	Student did not write on the assigned topic/task, or the student attempted to copy the prompt.
NE = Not English	Student wrote in a language other than English.
WF = Wrong Format	Student refused to write on the topic, or the writing task folder was blank.

Content/Organization	Usage	Sentence Construction	Mechanics
• Communicates intended message to intended audience • Relates to topic • Opening and closing • Focused • Logical progression of ideas • Transitions • Appropriate details and information	• Tense formation • Subject-verb agreement • Pronouns usage/agreement • Word choice/meaning • Proper Modifiers	• Variety of type, structure, and length • Correct construction	• Spelling • Capitalization • Punctuation

Note: All unscorable responses (NSRs), with the exception of NR, must be coded by the Scoring Director

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