



McKinney ISD Writing Product Rubric

EXPOSITORY

	Organization Coherence <i>(Clarity and movement)</i>	Idea Development/ Content <i>(Examples and Commentary)</i>	Style <i>(Personality and Voice)</i>	Conventions <i>(Mechanics, Usage, and Sentence Formation)</i>
1 Huh? (0 – 59 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The thesis is illogical and/or does not relate to the prompt. You use transitions incorrectly or not at all, making your organization difficult to follow. Paragraphs are not related to the thesis, making the entire essay unfocused. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your examples and commentary are vague, insufficient, and/or missing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your response has little or no personality. Your choice of words is vague and limited, making your essay difficult to understand. You do not establish an appropriate tone. Sentences are simplistic, awkward, and uncontrolled, significantly limiting the effectiveness of the essay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your many spelling mistakes distract the reader. Capitalization errors are present throughout. A severe lack of command of grammar and mechanics is evident. Most of your sentences are fragments or run-ons. The essay contains lack of punctuation, causing extreme disruption of thought.
2 Ok... (60–69 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your thesis is weak. Your lack of meaningful transitions makes your organization difficult to follow. Most paragraphs are generally related to the thesis; however irrelevant information interferes with the focus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You use superficial examples and lack relevant commentary. Your formulaic response lacks original examples and commentary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your personality is evident in some places. Your choice of words is ok but could be improved because your words are general and/or repetitive. You do little to establish an appropriate tone. Sentences lack variety and are awkward or only somewhat controlled, weakening the essay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have many spelling mistakes that may distract. Capitalization errors are present. A lack of command of grammar and mechanics is evident. Sentences may contain multiple run-ons and fragments. Many punctuation errors exist, creating disruptions.
3 Nice. (70–95 points) -3 = 70-79 3 = 80-89 +3 = 90-95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The thesis is specific, relating to the prompt. You use mostly meaningful transitions to help the reader follow the organization of your ideas. Most paragraphs are focused and support the thesis, however there may be minor lapses in that focus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You use specific, well-chosen examples and relevant commentary. You show some thoughtfulness in your incorporation of examples and commentary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your personality is evident most of the time, but your response still sounds a bit generic. Your word choice is specific and helps contribute to the quality and clarity of the narrative. Most sentences are varied and controlled, adding to the overall effectiveness of the essay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have a few minor errors in spelling that do not distract the reader. Capitalization is perfect. An adequate command of grammar and mechanics is evident. There may be some construction mistakes such as a run-on and/or fragment. You use a variety of punctuation correctly, but there may be some minor errors.
4 Wow!!! (96–100 points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The thesis is strong and specific, relating to the prompt. Your use of meaningful transitions makes your train of thought very easy to follow. All paragraphs are completely focused, strongly supporting the thesis and creating a unified and coherent essay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your response is thought-provoking because of the specific, well-chosen examples and thorough commentary. You skillfully incorporate examples and commentary to convey your unique point of view. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your response sounds authentic and original. Your word choice is higher level and is clear, vivid, and expressive. All sentences are purposeful, varied, and well-controlled, enhancing the effectiveness of the essay. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have no spelling mistakes. Capitalization is perfect. Grammar and mechanics are flawless. You consistently write sentences correctly, avoiding run-ons and fragments. A wide variety of punctuation is used correctly.

Comments:

STAAR WRITTEN COMPOSITIONS
EXAMPLE OF LINED PAGE

A large rectangular box with a decorative border, containing 20 horizontal lines for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the box. The box is intended for students to write their compositions within its boundaries.

STUDENTS MAY NOT WRITE OUTSIDE THE BOX