

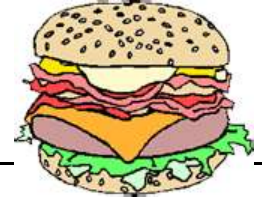
Student Friendly Scoring Rubric For FCAT Writing



1) IDEAS and CONTENT (TOPIC

| | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <p>(Topic) (The Heart of the Message)</p> | <p>WOW! Focused, clear, specific. The writer keeps the reader's attention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Completely on topic, didn't wander off the subject at all. > The ideas are clear, creative and original. > Strong reasons support the Topic Sentence (Main Idea) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Interesting and specific details support the reasons. (Great elaboration- description and explanation) > Writer shows insight (understanding) about the topic. | | <p>Some really good parts, some are not there yet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The writer is generally focused on the theme, but occasionally gets off the topic. > The message is a little vague, not clear enough; the writer needs to get specific. There are gaps. > Reasons are not very strong or convincing. > Details are insufficient, too general or not always related to the main idea. Details lack elaboration. > Very few new ideas presented > Reader is unsure of the writer's knowledge of the topic. | | <p>Reader cannot figure out what message the writer wants to convey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > The writer has only addressed the topic a little, but loses his/her way with extra ideas that do not make sense. > No message or purpose. > Reasons are limited and ambiguous. > Details are missing or untrue. > The writer repeats many ideas. > The writer confuses the reader, wanders aimlessly or does not know where he/she is heading. > Writer doesn't know much about the topic. |

2) ORGANIZATION



| | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| <p>(beginning, middle and end)</p> <p>(Internal Structure of the Piece of Writing)</p> | <p>Clear and Compelling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> >The beginning grabs the reader's attention. It starts with BANG! >The essay follows an effective logical order with a beginning, middle and end (like the hamburger) >Well organized and purposeful. > The paper conveys a sense of completeness. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Ideas are clearly linked to support a position. >Every detail adds a little more to the main idea. >Strong conclusion. >Carefully selected transitions are used. | | <p>Some really good parts, others need work. The order doesn't quite fit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > It has a basic beginning but it doesn't hold your attention or give you clues. >The paper has a beginning, middle and end (like the hamburger), but the ideas are in a strange order or sequence. >The paper lacks a sense of completeness. >The reader can usually follow the organization. > Reasons and details are not clearly linked to the main idea. > The paper includes some transitions, but sometimes they are not used effectively. | | <p>Not shaped yet. The order of the paper is confusing or illogical.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> >No clear beginning, middle or end (like the hamburger). The order is illogical. >The paper is like an incoherent list of related ideas or sentences or both. > There is no clear sense of beginning to introduce what follows. No real conclusions to wrap things up. > Connections between ideas are confusing. >No main idea, just a collection of disconnected details. > Problems with organization make it hard for the reader to understand the paper. |



3) WORD CHOICE AND VOICE

| | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Word Choice</p> <p>(Use of Rich, Colorful, Precise Language)</p> <hr/> <p>Voice</p> <p>(Heart and Soul, the Feelings through the Words)</p> | <p>WOW! Extremely clear and accurate. The writer uses the right words for the right places.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Demonstrates great command of language. > Uses powerful, lively verbs. > Uses vivid imagery (similes, metaphors, analogies) and colorful adjectives or adverbs. > Uses specific nouns/precise words. > Words and phrases help us picture what is said. > There's lot of showing, not telling. > The paper conveys emotion, passion and energy. > The writer cares and is enthusiastic about the topic. | | <p>Correct, but not surprising. The words communicate the message, but don't capture the reader's attention.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Uses everyday words pretty well and does not try to find new and better ways to say things. > Uses familiar nouns and verbs. > Uses few adjectives, adverbs or phrases. > Communicates well, but lacks power. > Sometimes uses words and phrases that inspire a little. > Writer has done more telling than showing. > Reader only occasionally senses enthusiasm and energy. | | <p>Confusing. Poor word choice</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > A lot of words and phrases are vague. > Very simple, dull, babyish words. > Words do not make the reader make pictures. > Some words are used incorrectly. > The paper is very difficult to understand, it makes no sense. > Same words are used over and over (monotonous and repetitious). > The paper is lifeless and mechanical. > Little or no evidence the writer is interested in the topic. |

4) CONVENTIONS AND SENTENCE FLUENCY

| | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Conventions (Spelling, Grammar, Usage, Capitalization and Punctuation)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Sentence Fluency</p> <p>(The Rhythm and Flow of the Language)</p> | <p>WOW! Practically perfect! There are very few errors in the paper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Minor errors that are easily overlooked. > Grammar and usage are correct. > Correct spelling. > Capitalization is OK. > Punctuation is smooth and enhances the meaning. > Effective sentence structure. > Every paragraph is indented. > Pleasing layout. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Easy to read aloud. > There is variation in sentence structure. > Sentences are complete except when fragments are added purposefully. > Uses different sentence beginnings. | | <p>A number of mistakes need cleaning up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Spelling is generally correct on most simple words. Some errors in difficult words. > Some problems with capitalization. > Occasional problems with grammar and usage. <p>e.g. Subject/verb agreement and/or tenses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Punctuation is generally OK. > Paragraphs do not always begin in the right spots. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > There is little variation, if any, in sentence structure. > Many sentences have the same beginning. > Some sentences are choppy (incomplete) or run-on. | | <p>Many errors make the reading difficult.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Serious errors in sentence structure and usage may affect communication. > Spelling errors are common, even simple words. > Incorrect use of capital letters throughout the paper. > Punctuation is very limited and/or wrong. > Many mistakes in the use of grammar. > Did not use paragraphs, or every sentence is a paragraph. <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Hard to read aloud. > No variety in sentences. > Repetitive beginnings. > Most sentences are choppy, incomplete or rambling. |