

Rubric for Short Constructed Responses

Score 4	<p>Overall: The response demonstrates a thorough understanding of the writing prompt and addresses itself to it with some sophistication and flair.</p> <p>Specifically: The paragraph is well constructed and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a topic sentence that picks up keywords from the Writing Prompt and directly addresses the main question; • three to five sentences that include important supporting details, and several well-chosen direct quotes from the passage; • supporting details and points that are introduced and integrated into the paragraph. 	Comments:
Score 3	<p>Overall: The response demonstrates a clear understanding of the writing prompt and addresses itself to it with clarity.</p> <p>Specifically: The paragraph is strongly constructed with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a topic sentence that picks up one keyword from the Writing Prompt and addresses the main question; • three to five sentences that include some well-chosen supporting details, and some direct quotes from the passage; • supporting details and points that are somewhat introduced and integrated into the paragraph. 	Comments:
Score 2	<p>Overall: The response demonstrates an uncertain understanding of the writing prompt and addresses itself to it in a hit-or-miss fashion.</p> <p>Specifically: The paragraph shows some awareness of proper paragraph construction with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a topic sentence that fails to include a keyword from the Writing Prompt and does not address the main question; • three to five sentences that include some well-chosen but also some poorly chosen supporting details; direct quotes are either missing or poorly chosen; • supporting details and points that are poorly introduced and poorly integrated into the paragraph. 	Comments:
Score 1	<p>Overall: The response demonstrates a weak understanding of the writing prompt and addresses itself to it in an unfocused fashion.</p> <p>Specifically: The paragraph shows little awareness of proper paragraph construction with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an unfocused topic sentence that fails to address the main question; • two to five sentences that fail to develop an idea with appropriate supporting details. 	Comments:
Score 0	Student makes no attempts to respond to writing prompt.	Comments: