

Scoring Guideline: Elementary

Score = 6

Excellent

- * Develops ideas well and uses many details related to the topic.
- * Has excellent organization and stays focused throughout the essay.
- * Has varied sentence structure.
- * Displays good word choices.
- * Contains little or no errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation; errors do not prevent understanding.

Persuasive mode

- * Clearly states the position and effectively persuades the reader of a certain viewpoint.

Score = 5

Skillful

- * Develops ideas with some details.
- * Is clearly organized; information is presented in an orderly way.
- * Shows some variety in sentence structure.
- * Displays some good word choices.
- * May contain some errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation; errors do not prevent understanding.

Persuasive mode

- * Clearly states the position and persuades the reader.

Score = 4

Sufficient

- * Provides clear ideas, but not fully developed; may have few details.
- * Provides a clear order of information; provides pieces of information that are generally related to each other.
- * Generally has simple sentences; may display uneven control over sentence structure.
- * Contains mostly simple word choices but may show some examples of good word choices.
- * Contains errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation that generally do not prevent understanding.

Persuasive mode

- * States a position and makes some attempt to persuade the reader.

Score = 3

Uneven

- * Provides limited or incomplete information; may be a list or an outline.
- * Is not organized in most of the essay or does not provide information in the correct order.
- * Displays uneven control over sentence structure.
- * May have some poor word choices.
- * Contains errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation that sometimes prevent understanding.

Persuasive mode

- * While a position is stated, either it is not clear or not developed.

Score = 2

Insufficient

- * Provides little information and makes little attempt at development.
- * Is very disorganized or too brief to find organization.
- * Displays little control over sentence structure.
- * Has incorrect word choices in much of the essay.
- * Contains misspellings, missing words, and incorrect word order; errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation are severe enough to make understanding very difficult in much of the essay.

Persuasive mode

- * Either a position is not clearly given or little attempt is made at persuasion.

Score = 1

Unsatisfactory

- * Attempts a response, but may only copy the prompt or be extremely brief.
- * Displays no control over organization.
- * Displays no control over sentence structure.
- * Has incorrect word choices throughout most of the essay.
- * Contains misspellings, missing words, and incorrect word order; errors in grammar, spelling, capitalization, and punctuation severely prevent understanding throughout the essay.

Persuasive mode

- * Little effort is made to persuade, either because there is no position taken or no support is given.