Ohio Achievement Test
Grade 7 Writing

May 2008

Answer Key
and
Scoring Guidelines
with
Exemplar Student Responses

Grade 7 Writing
Answer Key
May 2008

Item No.	Type	Content Standard	Content Standard Benchmark	Key
1	Writing Prompt – 5 point	Writing Applications	E	5 pt. rubric
	Writing Prompt – 3 point	Writing Conventions	C	3 pt..rubric
2	Multiple Choice	Writing Conventions	E	Not for Public Release
3	Multiple Choice	Writing Process	C	D
4	Multiple Choice	Writing Process	D	Not for Public Release
5	Multiple Choice	Writing Conventions	B	B
6	Multiple Choice	Writing Process	D	C
7	Multiple Choice	Writing Process	H	Not for Public Release
8	Multiple Choice	Writing Process	G	Not for Public Release
9	Multiple Choice	Writing Process	E	A
10	Multiple Choice	Writing Process	B	D
11	Multiple Choice	Writing Conventions	B	Not for Public Release
12	Multiple Choice	Writing Process	C	Not for Public Release
13	Multiple Choice	Writing Process	A	C
14	Multiple Choice	Writing Conventions	D	Not for Public Release
15	Multiple Choice	Writing Process	D	Not for Public Release
16	Multiple Choice	Writing Conventions	C	Not for Public Release
17	Writing Prompt – 5 point	Writing Applications	A	Not for Public Release
	Writing Prompt – 3 point	Writing Conventions	C	Not for Public Release

Limited = 0-9; Basic = 10-20; Proficient = 21-28; Accelerated = 29-37; Advanced = 38-41
Multiple Choice = 1 point

Writing prompts are scored in two areas: writing applications and writing conventions. Writing applications (WA) is scored for a possible total of 5 points. The WA score is multiplied by 2. Writing conventions (WC) is scored for a possible total of 3 points. The two scores are added for the total score:
WA x 2 + WC = Total score Sample score: 5 x 2 + 3 = 13

Grade 7 Holistic Rubric for Student Writing Prompts
5 Point Rubric

Points	Student Response
5 point	This is an excellent piece of writing. The prompt is directly addressed, and the response is clearly adapted to audience and purpose. It is very well-developed, containing strong ideas, examples and details. The response, using a clearly evident organizational plan, engages the reader with a unified and coherent sequence and structure of ideas. The response consistently uses a variety of sentence structures, effective word choices and an engaging style.
4 point	This is an effective piece of writing. Although the prompt is addressed and the response adapts to audience and purpose, the response's overall plan shows minor inconsistencies. The response is well-developed, containing effective ideas, examples and details. The response, using a good organizational plan, presents the reader with a generally unified and coherent sequence and structure of ideas. The response often uses a variety of sentence structures, appropriate word choices and an effective style.
3 point	This is an adequate piece of writing. Although the prompt is generally addressed and the response shows an awareness of audience and purpose, the response's overall plan shows inconsistencies. Although the response contains ideas, examples and details, they are repetitive, unevenly developed and occasionally inappropriate. The response, using an acceptable organizational plan, presents the reader with a generally unified and coherent sequence and structure of ideas. The response occasionally uses a variety of sentence structures, appropriate word choices and an effective style.
2 point	This is a marginal piece of writing. Although an attempt is made to address the prompt, the response shows at best an inconsistent awareness of audience and purpose. When ideas, examples and details are present, they are frequently repetitive, unevenly developed and occasionally inappropriate. The response, using a limited organizational plan, does not present the reader with a generally unified and coherent sequence and structure of ideas. The response is exemplified by noticeable lapses in sentence structure, use of appropriate word choices and a clear, readable style.
1 point	This is an inadequate piece of writing. A weak attempt has been made to address the prompt. The response shows little or no awareness of audience and purpose. There is little or no development of ideas, or the response is limited to paraphrasing the prompt. There is little or no evidence of organizational structure. The response is exemplified by severe lapses in sentence structure, use of appropriate word choices and a clear, readable style.
0 point	The following are categories of papers that cannot be scored: off task (complete disregard for the writing task identified by the prompt), completely illegible, in a language other than English or no response.

Grade 7 Holistic Rubric for Student Writing Prompts
3 Point Rubric

Points	Student Response
3 point	Minor errors, if any, do not impair a reader's understanding and comprehension. Few errors may be present in capitalization, punctuation and spelling. The writing displays a consistent understanding of grammatical conventions. The response displays an appropriate format with correct arrangement of its component sections or parts.
2 point	Errors may interfere with a reader's understanding of the written response. Some capitalization, punctuation and spelling errors are present. The writing displays some understanding of grammatical conventions. The document displays errors in format or arrangement of its component sections or parts which may interfere with a reader's understanding of the written response.
1 point	Errors impede a reader's understanding of the written response. Numerous errors in capitalization, punctuation and spelling are present. The writing displays a minimal understanding of grammatical conventions. The document displays substantial errors in format or arrangement of its component sections or parts which interfere with a reader's understanding of the written response.
0 point	The length and complexity of the response is insufficient to demonstrate that the writer has control over standard English conventions. The following are categories of papers that cannot be scored: completely illegible, in a language other than English or no response.

Prompt # 1

Your principal has invited students to paint a large mural on the wall in your school's entryway. The students at your school will vote to decide what should be painted on the wall. What do you suggest should be painted on it? Write an essay to persuade your fellow students that your idea is the best. Write your response in the **Answer Document**. (13 points)

Score Point 11 Response

There are many things we could paint on the mural, although painting a combination of sports and achievements would be the best thing to do. This will allow anyone who walks in to see what students at this school have accomplished. By showing a large variety of things, it tells anyone who comes in that kids at our school excel at many things, not just a particular activity. We could paint this, and put trophies our school has earned in the center.

If we use the mural as a frame for a trophy case, anyone who walks by will see that the mural is true. If we just put the mural on the wall, not everyone will believe that we are cabable of winning all of the awards. Anyone can paint a picture of people achieving things, but that doesn't always mean that it's true. With a trophy case in the middle of the mural,

everyone will see that we have done
all of these things, and have scored
high in competition. Now, I hope
you agree with me: painting achievements
as a frame and putting a trophy
case inside will truly show what
our school is capable of.

Rationale for Score Point 11

This response received a score of 11 because it is well-developed, containing effective ideas, examples and details ("If we use the mural as a frame for a trophy case, anyone who walks by will see that the mural is true. If we just put the mural on the wall, not everyone will believe that we are cabable of winning all of the awards"). Although the essay ends with a direct appeal ("Now, I hope you agree with me ..."), the overall persuasiveness of the essay is slightly diminished by focusing on the reason for including the trophy case ("everyone will see that we have done all of these things"). This response received 3 points for meeting the writing conventions of this grade level as correct spelling, punctuation, and capitalization allow for easy reading.

This response received 4 out of 5 points in Writing Applications and 3 out of 3 points in Writing Conventions for a total score of 11 points — (4 x 2) + 3 = 11.

Score Point 6 Response

I believe that we should paint a husky on the mural that is going to go on the wall in the entryway. A husky would be the best chose because it is our school mascot. It will show that we have school spirit. It would be a beautiful and admirable piece to our school and show that we are the huskies!

Rationale for Score Point 6

This response received a score of 6 because it shows an inconsistent awareness of audience and purpose. The response suggests, “we should paint a husky on the mural.” The ideas, examples and details are frequently repetitive, unevenly developed, and occasionally not relevant to the task (“It will show that we have school spirit. It would be a beautiful and admirable piece to our school and show that we are the huskies!”). The response does not show unified organization or structure of ideas. This response received 2 points for meeting most of the writing conventions of this grade level. Errors in capitalization, spelling, grammar, and punctuation may interfere with a reader's understanding.

This response received 2 out of 5 points in Writing Applications and 2 out of 3 points in Writing Conventions for a total score of 6 points — (2 x 2) + 2 = 6.

Score Point 5 Response

It should say Welcome to our school & Make a wises choice.

-I think that my idea is the best because students well think of things like passing and not felling. One reasons is if you make a wise choice instead of doing your work and getting good grades. you cant succeed in life.

Rationale for Score Point 5

This response received a score of 5 because it shows an inconsistent awareness of audience and purpose. The response suggests, “It should say Welcome to our school & Make a wises choice.” The ideas, examples and details are frequently repetitive, unevenly developed, and occasionally not relevant to the task (“One reasons is if you make a wise choice instead of doing your work and getting good grades, you cant succeed in life”). The response does not show unified organization or structure of ideas. There are noticeable lapses in sentence structure, appropriate word choices and a readable style. This response received 1 point for meeting few of the writing conventions of this grade level. Errors in capitalization, spelling, grammar, and punctuation may interfere with a reader's understanding. The response shows large errors in format and grammatical conventions.

This response received 2 out of 5 points in Writing Applications and 1 out of 3 points in Writing Conventions for a total score of 5 points — (2 x 2) + 1 = 5.

Score Point 4 Response

Fellow students the mural should be my idea. It shows school spirit also its very eye catching because of its color. Vote for me and I'll even take ideas for the mural. Vote for me and you all get a pizza party and a dance. So vote for me and have a great time!

Rationale for Score Point 4

This response received a score of 4 because a weak attempt has been made to address the prompt. The response persuades the reader to vote for an individual rather than an idea for the mural ("vote for me and you all get a pizza party and a dance"). The response shows little or no awareness of audience and purpose. There is little or no development of ideas, and little or no evidence of organizational structure. There are severe lapses in sentence structure, appropriate word choices and a readable style. The response does not show unified organization or structure of ideas. This response received 2 points for meeting most of the writing conventions of this grade level. Errors in capitalization, spelling, grammar, and punctuation may interfere with a reader's understanding.

This response received 1 out of 5 points in Writing Applications and 2 out of 3 points in Writing Conventions for a total score of 6 points — (1 x 2) + 2 = 4.

Score Point 3 Response

I Sugest that the Schools Mascot Shoulel be
painted on the wall. I think that they Should
paint the Mascot on the wall to show their
Spirit that thuy care and for respect to the city.

Rationale for Score Point 3

This response received a score of 3 because it is an inadequate piece of writing, and only a weak attempt has been made to address the prompt. The response shows little or no awareness of audience and purpose. The response suggests “the schools Mascot should be painted on the wall,” but there is little or no development of ideas and little or no evidence of organizational structure. The response shows serious faults in sentence structure, use of appropriate words, and a readable style (“I was going to do it and I will think it would be on the wall is some thing good”). This response received 1 point for meeting few of the writing conventions of this grade level. Errors in capitalization, spelling, grammar, and punctuation interfere with a reader's understanding. The single paragraph is not indented and shows minimal understanding of grammatical conventions.

This response received 1 out of 5 points in Writing Applications and 1 out of 3 points in Writing Conventions for a total score of 3 points — (1 x 2) + 1 = 3.