

MULTI-PARAGRAPH SCORING GUIDE

	Content – what is said:	Written Expression – how it's said:
<p>6 – WOW! →</p> <p>Your composition is engaging and developed with originality and flair. The writing is consistently strong in content and expression.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction captures the audience's attention with an imaginative lead <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis is clearly articulated, engaging, and developed throughout the composition <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs are well-developed with insightful support and organized for an intentional effective <input type="checkbox"/> Concluding paragraph is original, creative, and discerning; it presents a convincing, final statement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Writing is focused and on topic, with strong voice and expression <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary and word choice are effective and sophisticated <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence structure is varied and controlled; transitional and topic sentences are well executed <input type="checkbox"/> Few mechanical or spelling errors
<p>5 – STRONG! →</p> <p>Your composition is effective and has a clear sense of purpose; however, there are areas of minor weakness that could be further polished.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction directs the reader to the topic in an interesting way <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis argues a clear point, and is developed through composition <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs are well-developed with appropriate support and logically organized <input type="checkbox"/> Concluding paragraph engages the reader; it presents a final statement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Writing is focused and on topic <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary and word choice are appropriate <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence structure is varied and competent; transitional and topic sentences are used carefully <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical or spelling errors are minor and do not interfere
<p>4 – GOOD →</p> <p>Your composition is competent and straightforward; there are areas of weakness that could be developed with more originality of thought or expression.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction states the main idea of the essay but may be predictable <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis is simply expressed and developed through the composition <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs exist with adequate support and are organized logically <input type="checkbox"/> Concluding paragraph makes a final statement, but is predictable in its ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Writing is generally clear and remains on topic <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary and word choice are simple but correct <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence structure is correct, but simple; transitional and topic sentences are predictable <input type="checkbox"/> Some mechanical or spelling errors are present but do not affect understanding
<p>3 – A PASS →</p> <p>Your composition is passable and basic; deeper exploration of the ideas and more effective expression are required.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction is present but is unimaginative; may be linked to first body paragraph <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis is apparent but weak or not directly supported by the composition <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs may be brief, unimaginative, or off topic; organization is difficult to follow <input type="checkbox"/> Concluding paragraph makes a final statement but is over-simplified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Writing is unfocused but attempts to address the topic <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary is basic and repetitive <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence structure is awkward or simplistic; transitional and topic sentences may not be effective <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical or spelling errors are present but do not impact meaning
<p>2 – ALMOST →</p> <p>Your composition is weak and under-developed. More attention to developing ideas and structuring the composition are required.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction is not present or is mixed into the main body of the composition <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis is suggested but not clearly stated or developed <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraphs may be too poorly developed or organized to communicate meaning <input type="checkbox"/> Concluding paragraph is not present or mixed into a body paragraph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Writing is unfocused and often unclear <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary is informal and often colloquial <input type="checkbox"/> Simple sentence forms predominate; transitional sentences are not present <input type="checkbox"/> Numerous mechanical or spelling errors disrupt the flow of the writing
<p>1 – NOT YET →</p> <p>Your composition is inaccurate or incomplete.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> No attempt to include an introduction and conclusion to frame the composition <input type="checkbox"/> Structure is very weak – very brief or single paragraph <input type="checkbox"/> Ideas are poorly developed with little sequence or logic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Controlling idea and purpose are not clear <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary is immature or vague; word choice is not appropriate <input type="checkbox"/> Frequent grammar or spelling errors impede understanding
<p>0 – NOT AT ALL →</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The composition is too brief to evaluate or is not present at all. 	