



The Future Starts Here

HiSET Writing- the Essay

Iowa webinar May 2016

Expanding Opportunities. Changing Lives.
The *HiSET*® Exam

Agenda

- **Introductions**
- **The ETS Scoring Process**
 - Strategies for the classroom
- **Using the Scoring Guide as a Rubric**
 - Changing up terminology for the Adult learner
- **Understanding the HiSET's Individual Score Report for Writing**
- **Resources**
 - Literacy Assistance Center

What can I expect?

- ✓ Dispelling rumors, hearsay and misunderstanding
- ✓ Clarity & Consistency!

The Scoring Process

- HiSET essays are double human scored
- There is **no** “formula” or algorithm for success
 - *No mandatory character counts*
 - *No e-rater system scanning for key words*
 - *No mandatory number of paragraphs*



The Scoring Process

Raters receive:

- Systems training for online scoring
- Content training to understand prompt, benchmarks and scoring guide

Raters must:

- Pass certification test
- Calibrate before scoring
- Score essays using essay prompt, scoring guide and benchmarks as reference

Scoring in the Classroom

What scoring process can you apply in the classroom?

Anonymity?

Double scoring?

The Scoring Guide

- [HiSET Writing Scoring Guide](#)
- [HiSET Writing Essay Sample Responses](#)
- HiSET Road Map:
 - http://hiset.ets.org/s/p/resource_roadmap.pdf

Understanding the Writing Score Report

ETS HiSET Individual Test Report
High School Equivalency Test

Name:
ETS ID:
Date of Birth:
Test Date:

Language Arts - Writing

	Your score	Out of a possible	Minimum scaled score required	Did you achieve the minimum score?
Language Arts - Writing	11	20	8	Yes
Essay	2	6	2	Yes
Did you meet the minimum requirements of the Language Arts - Writing subtest?				Yes

Language Arts - Writing Performance Summary

	Percentage of items answered correctly
• Organization of Ideas	64%
• Language Facility	61%
• Writing Conventions	50%

	Your Score	Possible Score
• Essay	2	6

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Multiple Choice responses



Changing up Terminology:

Scoring a 1:

Essays at this score point demonstrate **weak** command over writing an argument on a given substantive topic using valid reasoning (*logical connection*) and relevant and sufficient evidence (*text or related information that proves the connection*).

Key words demonstrating "weak"

- Little or no development
- Ideas derived (*copied or taken from*) entirely from provided text
- Lacks introduction/conclusion
- Word choice "simple"

Changing up Terminology:

Scoring a 2:

Essays at this score point demonstrate **limited** command over writing an argument on a given substantive topic using **valid reasoning** and **relevant and sufficient evidence**.

Key words demonstrating "limited"

- "explanation is thin" (*lacks detail*)
- "minimally developed"
- "repetitive" (*word choice*)

Changing up Terminology:

Scoring a 3:

Essays at this score point demonstrate **partial** command over writing an argument on a given substantive topic using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence

Key words demonstrating a partial command:

- Partial development of central position
- Introduces claim (*position*) and counterclaim (*opposition*)
- Writer's own position is evident
- Limited use of evidence from text
- Underdeveloped introduction or conclusion
- Word choice general

Resources for Writing

Literacy Assistance Center – HiSET’s official
Professional Development Consultant

<https://sites.google.com/site/commoncoreshiftsforliteracy/home>

Sample prompt for the classroom:

http://hiset.ets.org/s/p/sample_essay_prompt.pdf