2019 NYSESLAT Writing Rubric—Grades 9–12

Dimension		Score 0 – Entering A response at this level:	Score 1 – Emerging A response at this level:	Score 2 – Transitioning A response at this level:	Score 3 – Expanding A response at this level:	Score 4 – Commanding A response at this level:
Complexity of Language		• Contains zero or few words or short phrases • Is blank • Is completely in a language other than English • Is illegible or unintelligible • Is completely copied text • Is isolated words or a list of words or short phrases	• Contains some words, short phrases, and occasionally simple sentences • Includes at least one sentence • May include adapted text in a well-constructed sentence	• Contains mostly simple sentences • Includes at least one expanded or complex sentence	• Contains simple, expanded, and complex sentences	• Contains a variety of simple, expanded, and complex sentences
Quality of Language		• Contains at most commonly used Tier 1 words or short phrases	• Contains Tier 1 and common grade-level Tier 2 words and short phrases	• Contains Tier 1 and a few grade-level Tier 2 and/or Tier 3 words and phrases	• Contains Tier 1 and some grade-level Tier 2 and/or Tier 3 words and phrases used appropriately	• Contains Tier 1 and many grade-level Tier 2 and/or Tier 3 words and phrases used appropriately
Coherence of Response		• Lacks a clear orientation, or organized or connected ideas, or closure due to brevity	• Includes at least one sentence that provides an orientation, organized or connected ideas, transitions, or closure	• Includes words and sentences that provide limited orientation, organized or connected ideas, transitions, and/or closure	• Includes words and sentences that provide partial orientation, logically organized and/or connected ideas, transitions, and closure	• Includes sufficient orientation, logically organized and connected ideas, and closure to provide clear organization
Degree of Response	**SCR**	• Lacks descriptions of ideas or facts	• Includes at least one description of an idea or a fact	• Includes some minimally detailed descriptions of ideas, facts, or both	• Includes many detailed descriptions of ideas, facts, or both	• Includes many sufficiently and precisely detailed descriptions of ideas, facts, or both
	ECR Narrative	• Lacks development of characters, details, or events	• Includes at least two references to characters, details, events, or closure	• Includes some references to characters, and limited development of details, sequenced events, and/or closure	• Includes many references to characters, and partial development of details, sequenced events, and closure	• Includes many and varied references to characters, and sufficiently precise details, sequenced events, and closure
	ECR Informational	• Lacks development of claims and evidence or support	• Includes at least one claim with evidence, support, or closure	• Includes some cohesive claims and evidence, a variety of support, and/or closure	• Includes many well-chosen cohesive claims and evidence, a variety of support, and closure	• Includes many and varied precise, well-chosen, cohesive claims and evidence, a variety of support, and closure
Mechanics		• Contains numerous errors that totally obscure meaning • Contains words that are unclear	• Contains many errors that often obscure meaning • Contains words that may be unclear, but meaning is evident • May include inventive spelling	• Contains some errors that occasionally obscure meaning • Is mostly clear • May include inventive spelling	• Contains few errors that rarely obscure meaning • Is clear • May include inventive spelling	• Contains minimal or no errors that obscure meaning • Is clear • May include inventive spelling

Note: Responses that are **completely irrelevant** to the prompt can be scored no higher than a 1.