

Forward Exam English Language Arts (ELA)

Short Write Task Rubrics for Grade 8

When reviewing these Rubrics, keep in mind:

- The rubrics are written at an educator level, not student level. Educators should use rubrics to provide guidance to students about expectations when answering these items.
- There are separate rubrics for each grade.
- Rubrics may not be used during testing.
- Rubrics are based on W2 and W3 in the ELA writing standards for each grade-level.
- [ELA Short Write Task Information and FAQs](#).

Grade 8 Argumentative Rubric

3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
<p>The response to the prompt is appropriate and maintains a clear and concise focus that accurately reflects the argumentative style of the writing. The response</p>	<p>The response to the prompt is limited in its focus and may inconsistently reflect the argumentative style of the writing. The response</p>	<p>The response to the prompt lacks focus and may be inappropriate to the argumentative style of the writing. The response</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creates an introduction that makes an argument about a topic, clarifies the purpose of the writing, and engages the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creates an introduction that makes an argument about a topic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks an introduction that makes an argument about a topic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> organizes logical reasons, relevant details, and an opposing claim that support the argument and develop the paragraph. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> partially organizes relevant reasons, details, and an opposing claim that support the argument. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks reasons, details, or an opposing claim that support the argument and develop the paragraph.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses relevant transitions and vocabulary that build connections and support the development of the argument in the paragraph. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses transitions and vocabulary that build connections in the paragraph and support the development of the argument. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks transitions and vocabulary that build connections and support the development of the argument.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes a conclusion that supports the argument, is appropriate to the argumentative style of writing, and provides closure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides an ambiguous conclusion that may be inappropriate to the argumentative style of writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks a clear ending or conclusion.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates a command of language. The response may contain errors, but the errors do not significantly interfere with the overall meaning of the response. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates a limited command of language. Some errors may interfere with the overall meaning of the response. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates little to no command of language. The response contains errors that significantly interfere with the overall meaning of the response.

Grade 8 Informative Rubric

3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
<p>The response to the prompt is appropriate and maintains a clear and concise focus that accurately reflects the informative style of the writing. The response</p>	<p>The response to the prompt is limited in its focus and may inconsistently reflect the informative style of the writing. The response</p>	<p>The response to the prompt lacks focus and may be inappropriate to the informative style of the writing. The response</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creates an introduction that communicates the topic, clarifies the purpose of the writing, and engages the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creates an introduction that communicates the topic and purpose of the writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks an introduction that connects to the topic.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> organizes relevant information and selects details to convey a desired idea or concept. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> includes relevant information and details in a partially organized manner to convey a desired idea or concept. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks information or details to develop the paragraph.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses relevant transitions and vocabulary to build connections that support the main idea and purpose of the paragraph. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses relevant transitions and vocabulary to build connections that support the development of ideas in the paragraph. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks relevant transitions and vocabulary to build connections that support ideas in the paragraph.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes a conclusion that supports the topic, is appropriate to the informative style of writing, and provides closure for the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides an abrupt ending or conclusion that may be inappropriate to the informative style of writing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks a clear ending or conclusion.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates a command of language. The response may contain errors, but the errors do not significantly interfere with the overall meaning of the response. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates a limited command of language. Some errors may interfere with the overall meaning of the response. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates little to no command of language. The response contains errors that significantly interfere with the overall meaning of the response.

Grade 8 Narrative Rubric

3 Points	2 Points	1 Point
<p>The response to the prompt is appropriate and maintains a clear and concise focus that accurately reflects the narrative style of the writing. The response</p>	<p>The response to the prompt is limited in its focus and may inconsistently reflect the narrative style of the writing. The response</p>	<p>The response to the prompt lacks focus and may be inappropriate to the narrative style of the writing. The response</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creates an introduction that establishes the situation and characters of a real or imagined experience and engages the reader by establishing a context and point of view. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> creates an introduction that establishes the situation and characters of a real or imagined experience and engages the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks an introduction that establishes the situation and characters of a real or imagined experience.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses narrative techniques and relevant descriptive details in a logical sequence to develop characters, experiences, and events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses narrative techniques and relevant descriptive details in a semilogical sequence to develop characters, experiences, and events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks narrative techniques and descriptive details to develop characters, experiences, and events.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses relevant transitions and vocabulary to build connections and provide clarity in the narrative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses relevant transitions and vocabulary to connect details and support the development of the narrative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks relevant transitions and vocabulary to connect details and support the development of the narrative.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> establishes a conclusion that provides a resolution to the narrative and closure for the reader. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provides an ambiguous resolution to the narrative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> lacks a clear ending or resolution to the narrative.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates a command of language. The response may contain errors, but the errors do not significantly interfere with the overall meaning of the response. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates a limited command of language. Some errors may interfere with the overall meaning of the response. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates little to no command of language. The response contains errors that significantly interfere with the overall meaning of the response.