



AP English Language 2000 Scoring Guidelines

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Question 1

- 9: Essays earning a score of 9 meet all the criteria for 8 papers and, in addition, are especially full or apt in their analysis or demonstrate particularly impressive control of language.
- 8: Essays earning a score of 8 effectively analyze how Welty's language conveys the intensity and value of her childhood experiences of reading. They refer to the text, explicitly or implicitly, assessing how specific elements such as concrete detail, anecdote, hyperbole, juxtaposition, and figurative language help Welty capture the intensity and value of this experience. Their prose demonstrates an ability to control a wide range of the elements of effective writing but is not flawless.
- 7: Essays earning a score of 7 fit the description of 6 essays but provide more complete analysis or demonstrate a more mature prose style.
- 6: Essays earning a score of 6 demonstrate an understanding of the relationship of Welty's language to the intensity and value it conveys, but their discussion is more limited. While the essays refer to the text, explicitly or implicitly, they offer a less convincing explanation of how its language functions. A few lapses in diction or syntax may be present, but generally the prose demonstrates control of ideas and writing.
- 5: Essays earning a score of 5 analyze Welty's use of language, but their discussion is uneven or inconsistent. They may treat her style in a superficial way or demonstrate unsophisticated ideas about the relationship between language and the intensity and value it conveys. These essays may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but their prose conveys the writer's ideas.
- 4: Essays earning a score of 4 offer an inadequate response to the prompt. They may misrepresent or merely touch on the relationship between Welty's language and the way in which it conveys intensity and value or identify techniques without providing relevant discussion about their function. The prose generally conveys the writer's ideas but may suggest immature control of writing.
- 3: Essays earning a score of 3 meet the criteria for the score of 4 but are less perceptive about the techniques Welty uses to convey intensity and value or less consistent in controlling the elements of writing.
- 2: Essays earning a score of 2 demonstrate little success in analyzing how Welty's language conveys intensity and value. These essays may offer vague generalizations about her use of language. They may lack development or substitute simpler tasks such as summarizing the passage or simply listing techniques. The prose often demonstrates consistent weaknesses in writing, such as a lack of development or organization, grammatical problems, or a lack of control.

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- 1: Essays earning a score of 1 meet the criteria for the score of 2 but are especially simplistic in their discussion or weak in their control of language.
- 0: Indicates an on-topic response that receives no credit, such as one that merely repeats the prompt.
- Indicates a blank response or one that is completely off topic.

Question 2

- 9: Essays earning a score of 9 meet all the criteria for 8 papers and, in addition, are especially full or apt in their analysis or demonstrate particularly impressive control of language.
- 8: Essays earning a score of 8 effectively analyze how Orwell criticizes Gandhi's position and assess how well he develops his own argument. They refer to the passage explicitly or implicitly and analyze the effectiveness of specific strategies such as choice of detail, tone, concession, rebuttal, and logic. Their prose demonstrates an ability to control a wide range of the elements of effective writing but is not flawless.
- 7: Essays earning a score of 7 fit the description of 6 essays but employ more complete analysis or demonstrate a more mature prose style.
- 6: Essays earning a score of 6 adequately analyze how Orwell criticizes Gandhi's position and assess how effectively he develops his own argument. They refer to the passage explicitly or implicitly, but their discussion is more limited. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but generally the prose is clear.
- 5: Essays earning a score of 5 analyze Orwell's strategies, but their discussion is uneven or inconsistent. They may offer superficial explanations of how the techniques work or limited assessment of their effectiveness. While the writing may contain a few lapses in diction or syntax, it usually conveys ideas adequately.
- 4: Essays earning a score of 4 respond to the prompt inadequately. They may misrepresent Orwell's criticism, analyze his strategies inaccurately, or offer little assessment of the effectiveness of specific techniques. The prose generally conveys the writers' ideas but may suggest immature control of writing.
- 3: Essays earning a score of 3 meet the criteria for the score of 4 but are less perceptive about Orwell's techniques and their effectiveness, or they are less consistent in controlling the elements of writing.

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- 2: Essays earning a score of 2 demonstrate little success in analyzing Orwell's techniques or in assessing their effectiveness. These essays may offer vague generalizations about Orwell's strategies. They may lack development or substitute simpler tasks such as summarizing the passage or simply listing techniques. The prose often demonstrates consistent weaknesses in writing, such as a lack of development or organization, grammatical problems, or a lack of control.
- 1: Essays earning a score of 1 meet the criteria for the score of 2 but are especially simplistic in their discussion or weak in their control of language.
- 0: Indicates an on-topic response that receives no credit, such as one that merely repeats the prompt.
- Indicates a blank response or one that is completely off topic.

Question 3

- 9: Essays earning a score of 9 meet all the criteria for 8 papers and in addition are especially full or apt in their argument or demonstrate particularly impressive control of language.
- 8: Essays earning a score of 8 demonstrate an understanding of Lear's speech and successfully establish and support their own position by using appropriate evidence from reading, observation, or experience. Their prose demonstrates an ability to control a wide range of the elements of effective writing but is not flawless.
- 7: Essays earning a score of 7 fit the description of 6 essays but are distinguished by more complete or more purposeful argumentation or a more mature prose style.
- 6: Essays earning a score of 6 demonstrate an understanding of Lear's speech and adequately establish and support their own position. Their arguments are generally sound and provide sufficient evidence, but they are less developed or less cogent than essays earning higher scores. They may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but generally the prose is clear.
- 5: Essays earning a score of 5 demonstrate an understanding of Lear's speech and establish and support their own position, but their arguments are rather limited, inconsistent, or unevenly developed. The writing may contain lapses in diction or syntax, but it usually conveys the writer's ideas adequately.
- 4: Essays earning a score of 4 respond to the prompt inadequately. They may misrepresent or oversimplify Lear's speech or may use evidence that is inappropriate or insufficient to develop their own position. The prose generally conveys the writers' ideas but may suggest immature control of writing.

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- 3: Essays earning a score of 3 meet the criteria for the score of 4 but demonstrate less understanding of Lear's speech, less success in developing their own position, or less control of writing.
- 2: Essays earning a score of 2 demonstrate little success in understanding Lear's speech or in developing their own position. These essays may misread the passage, fail to present an argument, or substitute a simpler task by merely responding to the question tangentially with unrelated or inappropriate evidence. The prose often demonstrates consistent weaknesses in writing, such as a lack of development or organization, grammatical problems, or a lack of control.
- 1: Essays earning a score of 1 meet the criteria for the score of 2 but are especially simplistic in their argument or are weak in their control of writing.
- 0: Indicates an on-topic response that receives no credit, such as one that merely repeats the prompt.
- Indicates a blank response or one that is completely off topic.