

PARAGRAPH SCORING GUIDE

	Content – what is said:	Written Expression – how it’s said:
<p>6 – WOW! →</p> <p>Your paragraph is insightful, engaging, and focused; it shows a thorough understanding of the task.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Analyses or presents the topic in an engaging and logical manner <input type="checkbox"/> Focused topic sentence <input type="checkbox"/> Body is developed with interesting and convincing support <input type="checkbox"/> Concluding sentence makes a strong final statement of the main idea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Tightly focused, on topic, and fully developed <input type="checkbox"/> Sophisticated vocabulary, word choice, and transitions <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence structure is varied and controlled <input type="checkbox"/> Few mechanical or spelling errors
<p>5 – STRONG! →</p> <p>Your paragraph effectively accomplishes the requirements of the task.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Analyses or presents the topic in a well-organized manner <input type="checkbox"/> Focused topic sentence uses active language <input type="checkbox"/> Body is developed with appropriate support <input type="checkbox"/> Concluding sentence affirms the main idea of the paragraph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Focused, on topic, and developed <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate vocabulary, word choice, and transitions <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence structure is varied and competent but uneven in places <input type="checkbox"/> Minor mechanical or spelling errors
<p>4 – GOOD →</p> <p>Your paragraph adequately fulfils the requirements of the task.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Analyses or presents the topic in a predictable manner <input type="checkbox"/> Topic sentence is clearly stated <input type="checkbox"/> Body is developed with some effective support <input type="checkbox"/> Concluding sentence completes the paragraph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Generally focused; may stray off topic; adequate development <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary, word choice and transitions are simple but correct <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence structure is correct, but simple sentences predominate <input type="checkbox"/> Some mechanical or spelling errors are present but do not affect understanding
<p>3 – A PASS →</p> <p>Your paragraph accomplishes the task at a basic level.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Analyses or presents the topic in a manner which is difficult to follow <input type="checkbox"/> A topic sentence is present, though not clearly stated <input type="checkbox"/> Body is developed with thin or repetitive support <input type="checkbox"/> Concluding sentence attempts to complete the paragraph 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Loose focus; may stray off topic; limited development <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary is basic and repetitive; transitions may be ineffective <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence structure is awkward or simplistic <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical or spelling errors are present but do not impact meaning
<p>2 – ALMOST →</p> <p>Your paragraph does not accomplish the basic task.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Analyses or presents the topic in a manner which is illogical or insufficient <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraph structure and development is weak <input type="checkbox"/> Topic sentence is vague or not present <input type="checkbox"/> Concluding sentence may not be present or may add new, unrelated information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Simple sentence forms predominate <input type="checkbox"/> Numerous mechanical or spelling errors disrupt the flow of the writing <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks focus, purpose, and development <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary is informal and often colloquial; transitions are not present
<p>1 – NOT YET →</p> <p>Your paragraph is incomplete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraph may be limited to one to two sentences <input type="checkbox"/> A topic sentence is not present or does not introduce the topic <input type="checkbox"/> Structure and development are not present <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraph lacks a concluding sentence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Lacks focus, purpose, or does not have a single, clear topic <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary is immature or vague; word choice is not appropriate <input type="checkbox"/> Sentence structure is incoherent <input type="checkbox"/> Frequent grammar or spelling errors affect understanding
<p>0 – NOT AT ALL →</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraph is too brief to evaluate or not attempted at all 	