

Writing Placement Assessment (WPA) Rubric

Criteria	WITDA (4)	WITDA + 1 (3)	DEV II (2)	DEV I (1)	ELL (0)
Responds to Prompt / Comprehension (20%)	Addresses the topic well. Responds to all aspects of the prompt. Demonstrates clear understanding of the prompt.	Mostly addresses the topic. Responds to some aspects of the prompt. Demonstrates some understanding of the prompt.	Distorts or neglects aspects of the prompt. Demonstrate difficulty understanding the prompt.	Indicates confusion about the topic/ prompt.	Suggests inability to comprehend the prompt or to respond meaningfully to the prompt.
Criticality / Clarity of Thought (40%)	Develops a mostly reasoned response. Shows depth and complexity of thought.	Develops a somewhat reasoned response. Shows some depth and complexity of thought.	Develops a weak response. Lacks focus, or demonstrates confused or simplistic thinking.	Lacks focus and coherence, and often fails to communicate ideas.	Is unfocused, illogical, incoherent.
Content Development / Support (25%)	Is organized and developed with ideas supported by specific and appropriate reasons and examples from experience.	Is mostly organized and developed though it may occasionally stray, with ideas supported by mostly specific and appropriate reasons and examples from experience.	Is weakly organized and developed, presenting vague generalizations without adequate support from experience, or presenting details without generalizations.	Has very weak organization and development. Having difficulty generating content.	Is disorganized and underdeveloped, providing little or no relevant support.
Control of Syntax / Mechanics (15%)	Displays syntactic variety and facility in the use of language. May have minor errors in grammar, usage and mechanics.	Displays some syntactic variety and facility in the use of language. Has some errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics.	Has limited control of syntax and vocabulary. Has an accumulation of many errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics that sometimes interfere with meaning.	Patterns of incorrect word order. Writing is hindered by limited vocabulary and language control that interfere with meaning.	Lacks basic control of syntax and vocabulary. Has serious and persistent errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics that severely interfere with meaning.