

General Writing Assessment Criteria

Language	<p>Accurate and appropriate language will help the text communicate clearly and contribute to the overall credibility of a text and its author.</p> <p>Mechanics – the use of capitalization, spelling, abbreviations, the hyphen, numbers, italics, etc.</p> <p>Punctuation – the use of ; , . “ ” ? – This category overlaps some with sentence structure as accurate use of punctuation often dictates the correctness of a sentence.</p> <p>Grammar – the use of all parts of speech and other grammatical structures such as word order.</p> <p>Vocabulary – the use and range of chosen words, and the use of terms appropriate for the discipline.</p> <p>Register – the tone or manner of expression and consistency of use throughout a text, i.e. formal vs. informal language.</p>
Structure	<p>Good structure in a text will make it easy for readers to follow the logic of the text and will also leave them with the sense that the overall purpose of the text has been clearly laid out and fulfilled.</p> <p>Organization – adapted for the purposes of the specific text (here, summary writing). This generally means the presence of the three parts of a text: introduction, body, and conclusion; the order and connectedness of paragraphs; the use of organizational cues, i.e. linking words or phrases, as needed.</p> <p>Paragraphing – the use of a paragraph as a unit to express, develop, and support one main idea; the connectedness to nearby paragraphs and the text overall.</p> <p>Sentence Structure – the construction/assembly of words and the use of punctuation to express one thought.</p> <p>Cohesion/Coherence – the unity and connectedness of the text.</p>
Content	<p>Good content means that the text presents relevant information that supports the purpose and the main idea. The selected information is clearly supported by source material that has been integrated into the text.</p> <p>Development of main idea – the main idea is sufficiently explored and stays on topic.</p> <p>Progression – the content of the text is presented in a logical manner, i.e. the reader can follow the train of thought of the author.</p> <p>Source Material – the use of sources to support ideas and arguments proposed by the author, as needed.</p> <p>References – the use of references, both in-text and the list at the end, as needed.</p> <p>Adherence to task requirements – fulfills requirements of tasks including length, and written in your own words, i.e. no plagiarism.</p>