



Test Specifications  
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 Language Arts Literacy

## Writing

**New Jersey Registered Holistic Scoring Rubric (Modified For ESPA) - p. 23**

In Scoring, consider the grid of written language	Inadequate Command	Limited Command	Partial Command	Adequate Command	Strong Command
Score	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Content &amp; Organization</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May lack opening and/or closing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May lack opening and/or closing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May lack opening and/or closing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally has opening and/or closing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opening and closing</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimal response to topic; uncertain focus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attempts to focus</li> <li>May drift or shift focus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Usually has single focus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single focus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single focus</li> <li>Sense of unity and coherence</li> <li>Key ideas developed</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No planning evident: disorganized</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attempts organization</li> <li>Few, if any, transitions between ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some lapses or flaws in organization</li> <li>May lack some transitions between ideas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ideas loosely connected</li> <li>Transition evident</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Logical progression of ideas</li> <li>Moderately fluent</li> <li>Attempts compositional risks</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Details random, inappropriate, or barely apparent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Details lack elaboration, i.e., highlight paper</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repetitious details</li> <li>Several unelaborated details</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uneven development of details</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Details appropriate and varied</li> </ul>
<b>Usage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No apparent control</li> <li>Severe/numerous errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerous errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Errors/patterns of errors may be evident</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some errors that do not interfere with meaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few errors</li> </ul>
<b>Sentence Construction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assortment of incomplete and/or incorrect sentences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excessive monotony/same structure</li> <li>Numerous errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Little variety in syntax</li> <li>Some errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some variety</li> <li>Generally correct</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Variety in syntax appropriate and effective</li> <li>Few errors</li> </ul>
<b>Mechanics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Errors so severe they detract from meaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerous serious errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Patterns of errors evident</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No consistent pattern of errors</li> <li>Some errors that do not interfere with meaning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few errors</li> </ul>
<b>Content &amp; Organization</b>	<b>Usage</b>		<b>Sentence Construction</b>	<b>Mechanics</b>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Communicates intended message to intended audience</li><li>● Relates to topic</li><li>● Opening and closing</li><li>● Focused</li><li>● Logical progression of ideas</li><li>● Transitions</li><li>● Appropriate details and information</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Tense formation</li><li>● Subject-verb agreement</li><li>● Pronouns usage/agreement</li><li>● Word choice/meaning</li><li>● Proper modifiers</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Variety of type, structure, and length</li><li>● Correct construction</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Spelling</li><li>● Capitalization</li><li>● Punctuation</li></ul>
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