Computer-Based Sample Test Scoring Guide

Grades 3-5 ELA Writing

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Prepared by the Arizona Department of Education

About the Sample Test Scoring Guide

The Arizona's Academic Standards Assessment (AASA) Sample Test Scoring Guides provide details about the items, student response types, correct responses, and related scoring considerations for AASA Sample Test items.

Within this guide, each item is presented with the following information:

- Item number
- Strand
- Cluster
- Content Standard
- Depth of Knowledge (DOK)
- Static presentation of the item
- Static presentation of student response field (when appropriate)
- Answer key, rubric or exemplar
- Applicable score point(s) for each item

The items included in this guide are representative of the kinds of items that students can expect to experience when taking the computer-based test for AASA Grades 3-5 ELA Writing.

Grades 3-5 ELA Sample Test – Writing

Item Number	Strand	Cluster	Content Standard	DOK
1	Writing	Text Types and Purposes	3.W.2	4

Passages:

- *Source 1: A Super Plant*
- *Source 2: Tree Power*

Useful Plants

Scientists have discovered that some plants can be used to produce electricity.

Write a multi-paragraph informative essay explaining how plants can be used to produce electricity. Use information from the sources in your essay.

Manage your time carefully so that you can do the following actions:

- Read the sources.
- Plan your response.
- Write your response.
- Revise and edit your response.

Be sure to include the following tasks:

- an introduction
- information from the sources as support
- a conclusion that is related to the information presented

Your response should be in the form of a multi-paragraph essay. Enter your response in the space provided.

Informative-Explanatory Rubric

Purpose, Focus, and Organization
The response is fully sustained and consistently focused within the purpose, audience, and task; and it has a clearly stated controlling idea and effective organizational structure creating coherence and completeness. The response includes most of the following: • Strongly maintained controlling idea with little or no loosely related material • Skillful use of a variety of transitional strategies to clarify the relationships between and among ideas • Logical progression of ideas from beginning to end, including a satisfying introduction and conclusion
Evidence and Elaboration
The response provides thorough and convincing support/evidence for the controlling idea or main idea that includes the effective use of sources, facts, and details. The response includes most of the following: • Relevant evidence integrated smoothly and thoroughly with references to sources • Effective use of a variety of elaborative techniques (including but not limited to definitions, quotations, and examples), demonstrating an understanding of the topic and text • Clear and effective expression of ideas, using precise language • Academic and domain-specific vocabulary clearly appropriate for the audience and purpose • Varied sentence structure, demonstrating language facility
Conventions
The response demonstrates an adequate command of basic conventions. The response may include the following: • Some minor errors in usage, but no patterns of errors • Adequate use of punctuation, capitalization, sentence formation, and spelling

Scoring Rubric – Top Score Response

A complete response will explain how plants can be used to produce electricity.

- Details from both sources should be included.
- Details and evidence to explain how spinach plants can produce electricity may include but are not limited to:
  - Spinach plants can be used to improve fuel cells. (Source 1)
  - "Fuel cells are used to power vehicles like cars and buses. They are also used to produce heat and electricity." (Source 1)
  - "Fuel cells combine two gases to create a current that produces electricity." (Source 1)
  - "The catalyst in a fuel cell is often metal, but scientists thought spinach might make a better catalyst because it is full of iron. Spinach is another renewable energy source." (Source 1)
  - “Using protein-rich spinach leaves, they made a juice. Next, they froze the juice and ground it into a powder. Then, they formed the powder into thin sheets.” (Source 1)
  - “The spinach lasted longer and created more power than a metal catalyst. Plus, spinach costs much less than metal.” (Source 1)
  - "In addition to being rich in iron, spinach is easy to grow and costs little to produce. (Source 1)
  - "It can also survive in cold temperatures." (Source 1)
  - "Soon, this superfood may power our machines, such as cell phones and electric cars, as well as our bodies!" (Source 1)
- Details and evidence to explain how oleander trees can produce electricity may include but are not limited to:
  - Oleander trees can create power. (Source 2)
  - "To begin, the scientists studied how leaves on trees can produce electricity." (Source 2)
  - “When the wind blows, leaves on trees flutter and touch against other leaves. Those movements cause electrons to gather on the surface of the leaf.” (Source 2)
  - “They become a flowing current. The current travels through the tree’s leaves, stems, and branches.” (Source 2)
  - “The scientists ‘plugged’ into a leaf stem. One leaf made enough electricity to light one hundred energy-saving light bulbs!” (Source 2)
  - "When the wind blew, all the leaves touched more frequently, and the amount of electricity increased." (Source 2)

(10 Points)