

MGA ELA Scoring Rubric: Grades 6-8 v.1

For writing focused on W.1 and W.2

Written Expression

Score	Organization/Purpose
3	<p>Response is consistently and clearly focused. Organization is purposeful and effective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main claim or controlling idea of a topic is clearly communicated/introduced. • Reasons, evidence, ideas, concepts, and information are effectively organized using appropriate strategies. • Transitions are effectively used to clarify relationships among ideas and concepts or to clarify relationships among claims and reasons. • Concluding statement that effectively follows from the argument or information/explanation presented is provided.
2	<p>Response is generally focused. Organization is evident and provides an adequate sense of completeness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main claim or controlling idea of a topic is communicated/introduced. • Reasons, evidence, ideas, concepts, and information are organized using mostly appropriate strategies. • Transitions are used to clarify relationships among ideas and concepts or to clarify relationships among claims and reasons. • Concluding statement that mostly follows from the argument or information/explanation presented is provided.
1	<p>Response is somewhat focused. Organization is inconsistent, with some evident flaws.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main claim or controlling idea can be inferred but may not be clearly communicated/introduced. • Reasons, evidence, ideas, concepts, and information are organized inconsistently using strategies and formatting that are only somewhat appropriate. • Some transitions are used, but they may only loosely and/or inconsistently clarify relationships among ideas and concepts or among claims and reasons. • Concluding statement is included but may not follow from the argument or information/explanation presented or may be somewhat difficult to discern.
0	<p>Response has limited or no focus. Organization is minimal or non-existent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main claim or controlling idea is missing or difficult to infer. • Minimal or no organization of reasons, evidence, ideas, concepts, and/or information is included. • Few, if any, transitions are used to clarify relationships among ideas and concepts or among claims and reasons. • Concluding statement is missing or difficult to discern.

Written Expression

Score	Development/Support
3	<p>Response is appropriate to task, purpose, and audience, and provides effective development of ideas using clear reasoning and relevant, text-based support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops topic in a manner that is appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. • Provides effective development of the argument or topic using clear reasoning, demonstrating a clear understanding of the topic and text. • Supports claim or topic with relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, evidence, and/or examples from the text.
2	<p>Response is mostly appropriate to task, purpose, and audience and provides development of ideas using sufficiently clear reasoning and mostly relevant, text-based support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops topic in a way that is mostly appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. • Provides adequate development of the topic using mostly clear reasoning, demonstrating an understanding of the topic and text. • Supports topic using mostly relevant facts, concrete details, quotations, evidence, and/or examples from the text.
1	<p>Response is somewhat appropriate to task and/or purpose, providing limited or uneven development of ideas using somewhat vague reasoning and little, if any, text-based support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops topic in a way that is somewhat appropriate to task and/or purpose. • Provides development that is uneven or limited, with reasoning that is somewhat vague, demonstrating a limited understanding of the topic and text. • May or may not support topic with limited facts, vague details, and/or limited quotations, evidence, and examples from the text.
0	<p>Response is inappropriate to task or purpose, providing minimal or no development of ideas, indiscernible reasoning, and no text-based support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops topic in a way that is inappropriate to task or purpose. • Provides little to no development of ideas, with no discernible reasoning, demonstrating a lack of understanding of the topic and text. • Provides little to no support.

Knowledge of Language and Conventions

Score	Knowledge of Language and Conventions
2	<p>Response demonstrates command of conventions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There may be some errors in punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling, but overall meaning is generally clear.
1	<p>Response demonstrates partial command of conventions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A few patterns of errors in punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling begin to impede understanding.
0	<p>Response demonstrates little or no command of conventions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patterns of errors in punctuation, capitalization, grammar usage, and spelling impede understanding.