

Paragraph Scoring Guide

6 ➔
Wow!

- Forceful topic sentence that directly addresses the topic
- All ideas are relevant and directly support the topic sentence
- Logical sequence of ideas; effective concluding sentence
- Sentences are controlled and varied in structure
- Word choice is appropriate and precise: few mechanical errors

5 ➔
Strong!

- Clear topic sentence that addresses the topic
- Most ideas are relevant and generally support the topic sentence
- Logical sequence of ideas; strong concluding sentence
- Sentences are mostly controlled and varied in structure
- Word choice is appropriate and accurate; some mechanical errors

4 ➔
Good!

- Adequate topic sentence that addresses the topic
- Ideas support the topic sentence but are general or obvious
- Some logic in the sequence of ideas; adequate concluding sentence
- Sentences and word choice are simple with an attempt at variety
- A number of writing errors, but meaning is clear

3 ➔
A Pass!

- Simple topic sentence that attempts to address the topic
- Some ideas support the topic sentence but are general or obvious
- Attempt at logical sequence of ideas; concluding sentence present but ineffective
- Awkwardness in sentence structure and word choice
- Numerous errors may interfere with meaning in some places

2 ➔
Almost!

- Topic sentence is present, but may not address the subject
- Ideas attempt but do not logically address the topic
- Sequencing of ideas is confusing; concluding sentence present but ineffective
- Awkwardness in sentence structure and word choice
- Numerous errors may interfere with meaning in some places

1 ➔
Not Yet!

- Topic sentence absent or does not address the topic
- Ideas and writing have little or no sense of purpose
- Maybe too short to adequately assess
- Awkwardness in sentence structure and word choice
- Significant number of errors creates interferes with meaning

0 ➔

- The response is off topic or difficult to understand