

NEVADA STATE WRITING PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION
ANALYTIC SCORING GUIDE*

VOICE

5: The writer speaks directly to the reader in a way that is individualistic, expressive, and engaging. Clearly, the writer is involved in the text, and the writing is writing to be read.

- The writing is appropriate to purpose and audience.
- The paper is honest. It has the ring of conviction.
- The word choice brings the topic to life and clarifies the writer's attitude towards the subject.
- The writer establishes a strong connection with the reader and clearly convinces the reader of the writer's commitment to the topic.

3: The writer seems sincere, but not genuinely engaged, committed, or involved. The result is earnest, but short of compelling.

- The writer seems aware of an audience but stands at a distance to avoid risk.
- The writing communicates in an earnest manner and may occasionally interest or move the reader.
- The word choice reveals the writer's attitude toward the topic in some places but may become general, vague, tentative, or abstract in other places.
- The writer establishes a connection with the reader and demonstrates some commitment to the topic; however, the writing hides as much of the writer as it reveals.

1: The writer seems indifferent, uninvolved, or distanced from the topic and/or the audience. As a result, the writing is flat, lifeless, or mechanical. More than one of the following problems is likely to be evident:

- The writer does not connect with the audience or have a sense of purpose.
- The writing communicates on a functional level. There is no presence of the writer on the page.
- The word choice tends to flatten all potential highs and lows of the message.
- The writer is not yet sufficiently engaged to take risks or make a commitment to the topic.

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