

# Administration of Justice Scoring Sheet for Writing Assessment (1/15/09)

## 1. Purpose

Addresses the assignment question/issue  
Introduction: provides clear sense of content/topic  
Introduction engages reader (has a hook)  
Clear statement of position  
Engages reader's interest  
Appropriate to audience  
Presentation (form/genre) is appropriate  
Appropriate voice/tone

Highly Competent	Competent	Emerging Competence	Not Competent
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## 2. Structure of argument

Logical flow of introduction with purpose explicit somewhere in the introduction  
Has a consistent and logical argument  
Organization: well-organized flow, repetition of key words, topic sentences, transitions between paragraphs  
Conceptual sophistication/style reflects complexity of thought  
Accurate use of headings as appropriate

Highly Competent	Competent	Emerging Competence	Not Competent
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## 3. Support of Argument

Demonstrates knowledge of material  
Sources used appropriately to support points  
Sources integrated into arguments  
Includes empirical/reality-based evidence (quantitative or qualitative) as appropriate  
Balanced treatment of ideas/issues

Highly Competent	Competent	Emerging Competence	Not Competent
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## 4. Writing Mechanics

Documentation and citation: sufficient and consistent, including one style of citation used adequately and correctly throughout the paper; adequate number of sources referenced; paraphrases and quotations used appropriately and fully cited. Correct incorporation of citation at the sentence level.  
Understands how to construct sentences/paragraphs  
Word choice, syntax, grammar, spelling, and punctuation  
Uses consistent voice and tone  
Appropriate use of first person  
Uses active voice  
Avoids contractions, slang, vague pronouns

Highly Competent	Competent	Emerging Competence	Not Competent
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## 5. Independent Thought

Develops own line of reasoning and/or applies knowledge  
Synthesizes knowledge, not just regurgitation or summary  
Provides interesting/valuable insights

Highly Competent	Competent	Emerging Competence	Not Competent
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## OVERALL SCORE

Highly Competent	Competent	Emerging Competence	Not Competent
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