

ELF TEST ESSAY

DETAILED SCORING RUBRIC

Essay Content				
	15 - 13 Accomplished	12 - 9 Commendable	8 - 5 Developing	4 - 1 Needs Improvement
Focus & Details	There is one clear, well focused topic. Main ideas are clear and are well supported by detailed and accurate information.	There is one clear, well focused topic. Main ideas are clear but are not well supported by detailed information.	There is one topic. Main ideas are somewhat clear.	The topic and main ideas are not clear.
Organization	The introduction is inviting, states the main topic, and provides an overview of the paper. Information is relevant and presented in a logical order. The conclusion is strong.	The introduction states the main topic and provides an overview of the paper. A conclusion is included.	The introduction states the main topic. A conclusion is included.	There is no clear introduction, structure, or conclusion.
	40 - 31 Accomplished	30 - 21 Commendable	20 - 11 Developing	10 - 1 Needs Improvement
Depth & Insight	The essay reflects a deep and comprehensive understanding of multiple factors and points of view involved in the issue. It succeeds in uncovering root issues and proposing compelling, well-founded solutions.	The essay reflects understanding of the issue and succeeds in proposing well-founded solutions.	The essay is on-topic. Responses offer multiple good points, but would benefit from more exploration, detail, or research.	The essay reflects limited or flawed understanding of the issue. Solutions offered may not be plausible.

Essay Mechanics				
	15 - 13 Accomplished	12 - 9 Commendable	8 - 5 Developing	4 - 1 Needs Improvement
Word Choice	The author uses vivid words and phrases. The choice and placement of words seems accurate, natural, and not forced.	The author uses vivid words and phrases. The choice and placement of words is inaccurate at times and/or seems overdone.	The author uses words that communicate clearly, but the writing lacks variety.	The writer uses a limited vocabulary. Jargon or cliches may be present and detract from the meaning.
Sentence Structure, Grammar, & Spelling	All sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. The author makes no errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling.	Most sentences are well constructed and have varied structure and length. The author makes a few errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling, but they do not interfere with understanding.	Most sentences are well constructed, but they have a similar structure and/or length. The author makes several errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling that interfere with understanding.	Sentences sound awkward, are distractingly repetitive, or are difficult to understand. The author makes numerous errors in grammar, mechanics, and/or spelling that interfere with understanding.